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# KANADESAGA

AND

# GENEVA.

GEO. S. CONOVER.

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# ADVERTISEMENT.

A year ago when the first chapter of this pamphlet appeared in the newspaper, it was the intention of the writer to publish only a few articles and preserve them in a small pamphlet for reference. At that time the matter was all written up, and contained such information as the writer then had. The publication of the articles in the paper attracted attention, additional light was obtained, and many new sources of information opened up, in the development of which, as the publication progressed, many chapters had to be entirely rewritten, some of them many times, and many new chapters also added, some being additional and supplementary to those which had already been published, making some corrections and adding much new additional and material facts.

While the writer regrets that the matter in the pamphlet is in such a crude state, yet he is also glad that it is not as originally intended, as it would have been far short of the facts which have been obtained during the progress of the work, by much laborious investigation and after a very extensive correspondence. The very fact that the articles have been appearing in the newspaper during a whole year has proven an opportunity for obtaining valuable suggestions from many sources, and for making somewhat extended and valuable additions to what had been in the first instance intended.

The writer disclaims any pretentions as an author, as he has freely used the ideas and words of others, in every case, however, giving proper credit therefor; and the only credit he is entitled to is for the labor expended in searching out and gathering together all the information possible, and in compiling the same for publication.

Apology should also be made for the typographical appearance of the pamphlet, the printing being done from the type used in the ordinary publication of the newspaper, and not suitable nor such as is used in job work, and the matter often necessarily being printed in a hurry, on a small form, after its use in the paper. The press work, for reasons which seemed imperative at the time to the writer, and against the wishes of the printer, was commenced on too small a sized paper, the margin being inadequate for proper binding, but which would have answered well enough for a 20-page pamphlet, is entirely insufficient for one thrice that size.

Should the present unpretending publication attract attention enough to warrant it, the writer may at some future time revise and re-write the matter, for publication in a more substantial form.

GEO. S. CONOVER.

Geneva, March 17, 1880.

☞ This pamphlet has been entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1880, by

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EARLY

# HISTORY OF GENEVA,

(FORMERLY CALLED KANADESAGA.)

BY

## GEORGE S. CONOVER,

PRESIDENT OF THE VILLAGE.

FROM THE GENEVA COURIER,

*MARCH, 1879.*

New York

4457 COURIER STEAM PRESSES, GENEVA, N. Y.

# HISTORY OF GENEVA.

*MATTERS IN RELATION TO THE ORIGINAL SETTLEMENT AND LAND TITLES IN GENEVA (FORMERLY CALLED KANADESAGA).*

WRITTEN BY GEO. S. CONOVER,
PRESIDENT OF THE VILLAGE,

PUBLISHED IN THE GENEVA COURIER MARCH, 1879.

An address written for the annual tax meeting in 1877, and shortly afterwards published contained nearly all the important facts then within the knowledge of the undersigned. A few errors occurred in the publication, such as the date of the second charter to Massachusetts, 1791 should be 1691.

Clark Jennings should be Lark Jennings; ——— Colt should be Judah Colt, and the two "lessee" companies were respectively "The New York Genesee land Company," and "The Niagara Genesee land Company." The treaty as narrated having been made at Canandaigua, was at Buffalo Creek, as will hereafter appear in this article.

Since the publication of the address I have gained very much valuable information, and have seen and examined many original papers, copies and extracts of which have been taken and recorded in Miscellaneous Record Book, in the village trustees' room. I am indebted greatly to "Turner's Pioneer History of Phelps and Gorham's purchase, published in 1851, and also to the large collection of Colonial Manuscripts in the office of the Secretary of State at Albany, these manuscripts being bound up in volumes, and a copious index showing the nature of each paper in those volumes published in 1864 by Weed, Parsons & Co., entitled "Calendar of New York Colonial Manuscripts indorsed Land Papers in the office of the Secretary of State of New York.—1643–1803." I have also been able to secure some valuable maps, particularly a copy of the map of the pre-emption line by Benj. Ellicott as certified by Simeon DeWitt, Surveyor General, and adopted as the true division line between the lands of Massachusetts and New York. Within the past few days I discovered in the Comptroller's office at Albany, a map of "the Gore" made by David Hudson, 1810, a copy of so much of the same as relates to this village I have secured. In consequence of the valuable information obtained, I have thought best to summarize such information for publication, but in doing so, the necessity of the case seemed to demand in some cases a full quotation from papers instead of a condensed statement, which will make the articles rather more prolix than desirable, but will materially enhance their value.

GEO. S. CONOVER.

## CHAPTER I.

### CONTROVERSY BETWEEN NEW YORK AND MASSACHUSETTS IN RELATION TO OWNERSHIP OF LAND IN NEW YORK—SETTLEMENT OF THE SAME AT HARTFORD, 16 DEC. 1786, BY MUTUAL CESSIONS.

After the close of the Revolutionary war the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of New York both claimed, under the grants which they held from the British Kings, the larger share of the territory lying within the bounds of the State of New York. In order to have a settlement of the matter, Massachusetts by an act passed 14th March 1784, petitioned the United States Congress to take action in the premises, which was favorably received and an act of Congress passed 3d June 1784, taking cognizance of the case and assigning a day for the appearance of the two States by their lawful agents, when Congress would proceed in the premises as by the articles of "confederation and perpetual union is directed." New York by an act of legislature passed Nov. 12, 1784 appointed agents for vindicating her rights, Massachussets having likewise appointed her agents to manage, conduct and prosecute the claims of the commonwealth to the lands in dispute. While such proceedings were pending in Congress, the Legislature of Massachusetts passed an act empowering their agents or commissioners to settle the controversy "otherwise than by a federal court if they shall judge expedient" and authorized the major part of them to agree with the agents or commissioners of the State of New York upon a settlement in such way and manner as they should judge would comport with justice and the interest of the commonwealth. The legislature of the State of New York by a like act passed April 28, 1786 empowers her commissioners to settle the controversy, otherwise than by the Federal court, in such manner as they should judge most conducive to the interest of the State.

In pursuance of the above powers, the commissioners of the State of New York, James Duane, Robert R. Livingston, Robert Yates, John Haring, Melancton Smith, and Egbert Benson, and the commissioners of the Commonwealth of Massachussets, John Lowell, James Sullivan, Theophilus Parsons, and Rufus King, by mutual consent assembled at the city of Hartford, Connecticut, on the 30th day of November 1786, and after several conferences, did on the 16th December 1786, enter into and execute an agreement or contract embracing mutual cessions, grants, releases and provisions whereby all the interfering claims and controversies between said States, as well in respect of jurisdiction as property, were finally settled and extinguished, and peace and harmony established between them on the most solid foundation. The following is a brief substance of the contract.

1. Massachusetts cedes to New York the right of government, sovereignty, and jurisdiction of all the lands in dispute.

2. New York cedes to Massachusetts the right of pre-emption of the soil from the native Indians to 230,000 acres, between the Owego and Cheuango rivers, and also to all the lands in New York, west of a line "beginning in the north boundary line of the State of Pennsylvania, in the parallel of forty-two degree of north latitude at a point distant eighty-two miles west from the northeast corner of State of Pennsylvania, on Delaware river, as the said boundary line hath been run and marked by the commissioners appointed by the states of Pennsylvania and New York respectively, and from the said point of beginning running on a due meridian north to the boundary line between the United States of America and King of Great Britian," except one mile in width along the Niagara river.

3. Massachusetts cedes to New York all the rest of the lands in dispute.

4. Lands ceded to Massachusetts to be exempted from state taxes for 15 years, but subject to town and county taxes.

5. No rents or services to be reserved in any grants, t be made of the said lands by Massachusetts.

6. Inhabitants on lands ceded to Massachusetts to have equal rights with other citizens of New York, especially as to roads, navigation and fishery in the lakes.

7. No adverse possession to affect title of Massachusetts.

8. New York not to divest itself of government without the consent of Massachusetts.

9. Massachusetts empowered to treat with Indians with armed force.

10. Massachusetts empowered to sell pre-emption right.

11. Grantors from Massachusetts to cause certified copies of their grants to be deposited in the office of Secretary of State of New York.

The foregoing is recorded in the Secretary of state's office in book of deeds, No. 22, page 38, and a copy is recorded in Miscellaneous Record book, in the office of the Board of Trustees of the village of Geneva.

## CHAPTER II.

INDIAN TREATIES—RESERVATION OF 16,000 ACRES TO PETER RYCKMAN—ALSO 320 ACRES TO JOSEPH POUDRE.

In the year 1791, New York procured a council with the chiefs or deputies from the Six Nation Indians, early in the month of September at Fort Schuyler, but no treaty was made, as the United States had called a council to meet the same at Fort Stanwix, and the Indians refusing to treat with a single state, while the "13 fires" were desiring a treaty, as they thought it strange that "there should be two bodies to manage the same business. The council was held at Fort Stanwix on the 20th Sept., and a treaty of peace concluded between the United States and the Indians, whereby captives were to be surrendered, and the Indians guaranteed their lands in New York. In June, 1785, the state of New York secured a treaty with the Oneidas and Tuscaroras, at Fort Herkimer, at which some land was procured. It was not, however, until after the settlement and contract with Massachusetts, that any large tracts of land were procured from the Indians, and it was then with great difficulty that councils could be procured on account of the active opposition of the two "lessee companies," who had held a treaty with the Indians at Kanadesaga and procured a lease for 999 years of nearly all the Indian lands in the state. It was finally determined to hold a council in September, 1788, at Fort Schuyler, and agents and runners were sent out by the New York Commissioners to induce the Indians to attend. Great preparations were made for this embassy to the Indian country. The board of commissioners and their retinue started from Albany, on the 23d, and did not arrive at Fort Schuyler until the 28th August. A wild romantic scene was soon presented. "Gov. Geo. Clinton pitched his marquee, and was surrounded by many who had been conspicuous in the Revolution, and were then leading men in the new state. They were surrounded by the camp fires of the numerous representatives of the Six Nations, amounting to thousands. Indian traders were there from New York and Canada in large numbers with their showy goods and trinkets, and "fire water," ready for the sale of goods, or the espousal of either the interest of the State or the "Lessees." Prominent "Lessees" from Albany, Hudson and Canada, were in the crowd, secretly and insidiously endeavoring to thwart the object of the council. Learning that one of their principals, John Livingston, was present, Gov. Clinton ordered him to leave in three hours and retire to the distance of forty miles.'

Finding that the Cayugas and Senecas had held back, messengers were sent to Kanadesaga, who found Dr. Benton, a prominent "lessee," and his agents, surrounded by Indians dealing out liquor and goods and persuading them that New York would either cheat them out of their lands, or else put them to death. Many of them were undeceived and started on the journey, but so great had been the beastly intoxication, that but few went further than Seawyace (South Waterloo), being unable to proceed, and but few reached the council, one Cayuga dying on the road.

On the 8th of September the Council was opened by a speech from Gov. Clinton, and after a few days' negotiation a treaty was concluded with the Onondagas, whereby all their lands were procured, except certain reservations. Negotiations with the Oneidas followed, and after some days a like treaty was procured from them. The council had continued for twenty-five days. It became now important in order to secure the balance of the Indian lands to procure a treaty with the Cayugas and Senecas. Rev. Samuel Kirkland was dispatched to those tribes to inform them what had been done and to prepare the way for a council.

Seth Reed, who was living at the old Castle, and Peter Ryckman, upon the lake shore, at Kanadesaga, both noted Indian traders, were engaged to aid in getting the attendance of the Indians at Albany. Reed and Ryckman responded and sent James Manning Reed to Albany with a letter, saying that they would be at Albany the later part of January with the Indians, and adding that the lessees kept the Indians "so continually intoxicated with liquor, that it is impossible to do anything with them." It was not until February, 1789, that Ryckman was able to collect a sufficient number of Indians and reach Albany.

On the 19th the Council was opened with the Cayugas, many Senecas, Onondagas and Oneidas being present, "Good Peter" or Dominie Peter"was the principal speaker for the Cayugas. Present at the council, was a considerable number of their women, whom Good Peter called "Governesses," and of whom he said "Our ancestors consider it a great transgression to reject the counsel of the women, particularly the Governesses; they considered them the mistress of the soil. They said, who bring us forth? Who cultivate our lands? Who kindle our fires, and boil our pots but the women?

Our women say let not the tradition of the fathers with respect to women be disregarded; let them not be despised; God is their maker."

After days of negotiation, the treaty of Albany was concluded on the 25th of Feb. 1789, the Cayugas ceding all their lands, which extended west to the pre-emption line agreed upon by New York and Massachusetts,

except a large reservation for themselves, and reservations for others. The consideration was $500 cash in silver, $1,625 in June following, and an annuity of $500. This treaty was signed by Gov. Clinton, Lieut. Gov. Pierre Van Cortlandt, Ezra L. Hommedieu, Abraham Ten Broek, John Hathorn, Samuel Jones, Peter Gansvoort, Jr., and Egbert Benson on behalf of the state, and by 14 Indians and 12 Governesses, most of which are noted as having been signed by Steeltrap, and each having a different mark as the peculiar signature of the person or family represented, a copy of which is in the Village Trustees' room and exceedingly interesting to the curious. These latter signatures as stated in the treaty are representatives of the "Sachems, Chiefs and warriors of the tribe or nation of Indians called the Cayugas for and on behalf of the said nation."

One of the reservations in this treaty very vitally affected the early settlement of Geneva, and although at this day it is but little known, yet it is of such interest as to be copied entire and is as follows: "And as a farther consideration to the Cayugas, the People of the State of New York shall grant to their adopted child, Peter Ryckman, whom they have expressed a desire should reside near them to assist them, and as a benevolence from them the Cayugas to him, and in return for services rendered by him to their nation, the said tract of one mile square at the Cayuga ferry excepted out of the lands reserved to the Cayugas for their own use and cultivation. That of a tract beginning on the west bank of the Seneca Lake, thence running due west (passing one chain north of an house lately erected, and now in the occupation of the said Peter Ryckman,to the line of partition between the State of New York and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts of the lands ceded to each other, thence northerly along the said lake to the place of beginning, so as to contain sixteen thousand acres. The people of the state of New York shall grant 320 acres to a white person married to a daughter of a Cayuga chief named Thaneowas, including the present settlement of the said person on the south of Cashong[sic] Creek, and that the people of the state of New York shall grant the residue of the said tract of 16,000 acres to the said Peter Ryckman."

As there has been some dispute as to whom the title of the above 320 acres belonged, many claiming that the person was a Frenchman by the name of Dominick Debartzch, from whom it is asserted that Major Benj. Barton purchased the tract, pulling off his overcoat and giving it to him in part payment, and that Joseph Poudre was his servant, the following extracts emphatically settle the dispute. In the Secretary of State's office, Vol. L. Colonial manuscript, is a paper entitled "Return of survey for Joseph Poudre, of a tract of land containing 320 acres on the west side of Seneca Lake beginning at the mouth of the Cashsong[sic] creek, reserved by a treaty with the Cayuga Indians for said Joseph Poudre, who married the daughter of a Cayuga." In the book of the patents in said office is found also a copy of the patent for said land, issued to Joseph Poudre, April 12, 1791.

## CHAPTER III.

CONTROVERSY BETWEEN RYCKMAN AND REED — COMMISSIONERS OF LAND OFFICE INVESTIGATE —SETH REED'S CLAIM ALLOWED AND PATENT FOR 16,000 ACRES ISSUED TO RYCKMAN AND REED—THE REED AND RYCKMAN LINE.

While Peter Ryckman was at Albany with the Cayugas in Feburary, 1789, assisting the state to procure a treaty, and in procuring the reservation for large tracts of land in said treaty in his own name, Seth Reed was obliged to remain at Kanadesaga to supply the Indians there with provisions, and counteract the effect of Dr. Benton and the agents of the "lessees" in the endeavor to prevent a treaty being made, as there was great danger that Indian runners might be sent at any time from Kanadesaga to Albany with such stories as might break up the council. It was the understanding between Reed and Ryckman that whatever reservation he might be able to secure, should be in their joint names. As soon as Col. Reed found he had been cheated by his partner,he took energetic steps to protect his own interests and correct the wrong that had been done him. Among the Colonial papers yet in existence in the Secretary of State's office, there is abundant proof of the above assertion. In Vol. 47, there is, "Aug. 24, 1789, "Caveat of Seth Reed against granting letters patent to Peter Ryckman for two tracts of land, one 16,000 acres on the west side of Seneca Lake and another,one mile square at the "Cayuga ferry." On the 9th, March 1790, the Legislature passed act entitled, "An act for relief of Henry Haydock and others," which authorized the commissioners of the Land Office, among other things, to investigate the matter in dispute between Ryckman and Reed. The commissioners met at Simon's Tavern in the city of New York, March 13, 1790, at which meeting both the parties were present and presented their claims for the patent, filing affidavits

[sic] spelled in the treaty. [sic] spelled in the patent to Poudre.

of sundry individuals in support thereof. Mr. Ryckman not being ready to rebut the powerful evidence Col. Reed produced, an adjournment of the matter was had until Nov. 1, at which time the commissioners again convened at the Secretary's office in New York, when Seth Reed appeared by his attorney Jas. Mannning Reed, and Ryckman not appearing, the commissioners adjourned until next day. On the 2d of November 1790, the commissioners met, Peter Ryckman not appearing, and proceded to the consideration of the matter.

Among the papers presented by Col. Seth Reed and which were examined at this time, are affidavits of the following persons, which are yet to be found in volume 49 Col. Mss., in Secretarys office, viz: Joel Prescott, Elias Dickinson, James Manning Reed, Albert Ryckman, David Smith, Thomas Sisson, Gilbert R. Berry, Peter Bortie, John Richardson, Asa Ransom, Lark Jennings, Peter Hobart, Ephraim Webster, Thody Cowl, Stephen Wilkinson, Hugh Maxwell, Thomas Kirkland, Rev. Samuel Kirkland, John Reed, Rufus S. Reed.

The contents of these affidavits together with many other valuable papers, surveys, claims, patents, etc., can be ascertained by reference to a "Calender of Ct. Y. Colonial Manuscripts indorsed land papers: in the office of the Secretary of the State of New York. After an examination of the cases the Commissioners of the land office decided "That the said Peter Ryckman and Seth Reed have an equal claim in the said tract of 16,000 acres of land so reserved in said deed of cession," and that letters patent should issue to Peter Ryckman and Seth Reed as tenants in common for the said tract share alike, and on the same day, Nov. 2, 1790 (see book of Patents page 384) letters patent were issued to Peter Ryckman and Seth Reed for the sixteen thousand acres on the west bank of Seneca Lake, the description in the patent being precisely worded as in the Indian treaty, and excepting out of the same, the reservation in said treaty of the 320 acres on the south side of *Caigsion Creek, for the white man married to the Indian woman Thaniowes.

Seth Reed's claim to the land at Cayuga Ferry was not allowed.

*This patent embraced all the land in the village of Geneva south of what is commonly called the Reed and Ryckman line and which line commenced at the lake somewhere near the rear of Patrick O'Rorky's grocery store and ran due west past the north boundary of the Pulteney street burial ground and through the centre of High street to the old pre-emption line, and is the base line of all the original surveys of the village.*

*So spelled in the patent.

## CHAPTER IV.

### SETH REED'S PATENT OF 2,000 ACRES, NORTH OF REED AND RYCKMAN'S PATENT.

At page 41 volume 48 of land papers, colonial manuscript is the following: New York, 13th February, 1790. I do hereby certify that Seth Reed by virtue of an act of the Legislature entitled "An act for raising two regiments for the defence of this state on bounties of unappropriated lands," passed the 20th March, 1781, and an act entitled "An act for raising troops to complete the line of this state in the service of the United States, and the two regiments to be raised on bounties of unappropriated lands and for the further defence of the frontiers of this state" passed 23d March, 1782, and in consequence of a location made agreeably to the said acts and certificates duly authenticated and deposited in this office, is entitled to all that certain tract of land situate in the county of Montgomery, beginning on the west bank of the Seneca lake at the north-east corner of a tract of 16,000 acres of land directed to be granted to Peter Ryckman, and running thence north 3° 45 m, east 162 chains to a beech tree marked S. L. Cowley, 1789, then north 87° and 20 m west, 123 chains to the line run for the east bounds of the territory ceded by this state to the commonwealth of Massachusetts, then along the said line south 2° 40 west, 168 chains, 50 links to the said tract directed to be granted to Peter Ryckman, and then along the same east 121 chains to the place of beginning containing 2,000 acres. And I do further certify that the same is laid out as nearly in a square as local circumstances will admit, that it is not to the best of my belief and information granted to or located by any other person by virtue of any of the before recited acts, that it was not occupied and improved by any person on or before the 25th day of July in the year 1782, and that it is no part of the land reserved to the use of the people of this state. SIMEON DEWITT,
Surveyor-General.

At a meeting of the commissioners of the land office held in the Secretary's office in New York, Monday 15, February 1790, a patent was ordered to be issued for the foregoing and on the same day the patent was issued to Seth Reed for 2000 acres described in the foregoing certificate.

*This patent comprised all that part of the village of Geneva north of the Reed and Ryckman line, extending west to the old Pre-Emption line and north to the town of Phelps its eastern boundary being a line commencing on Seneca lake at the east end of Reed and Ryckman line and running N. 3° 45 m East. This last line would commence somewhere in*

*the rear of O'Ridley's and running in a straight line nearly north, would cross the west side of Exchange St. at Castle creek.*

All that part of the village, east of the above line, and comprising the north-east portion of the village, fell within the military lands of the State and was granted to different soldiers. North of Seth Reed Patent, a grant of 400 acres was made to Jas. Manning Reed, and north of the latter a grant of 400 acres was made to Sanford Williams and Jerom Loomis.

It must be here remembered that all these patents were issued on the supposition that the pre-emption line was rightly run, but in a few years when the new line was run and established as the true line, the lands were found to fall within the Massachusetts grant, and the grants from New York were void, as titles had passed from one to another, there was no end to trouble, the state of New York finally granting other lands, known as compensation lands, to the aggrieved parties.

## CHAPTER V.

PHELPS AND GORHAM'S PURCHASE OF MASSACHUSETTS—THEIR TREATY WITH THE INDIANS—BOUNDARY OF LANDS SECURED.

Soon after Massachusetts became possessed of the pre-emption right by deed of cession from New York, Oliver Phelps, with a company of associates, resolved to endeavor to purchase a large tract of the land. Before their plans were matured Nathaniel Gorham made a proposition to the Legislature at the session in 1787, but the matter failed. A combination was then made of the principal parties who were competitors or who desired to become interested in the venture, an association formed, and Phelps and Gorham were constituted their representatives. A proposal having been made by Phelps and Gorham "to purchase for the consideration of three hundred thousand pounds in consolidated securities of this commonwealth, or two thousand pounds specie together with two hundred and ninety thousand pounds in like securities, the right of pre-emption which this commonwealth has in and to the western territory, so-called, lately ceded by the State of New York to this commonwealth," the legislature of Massachusetts on the 1st April, 1788, passed an act, agreeing to sell the lands to the said Phelps and Gorham for the sum of three hundred thousand pounds as above to be paid in three annual instalments, and authorizing them to extinguish the claims of the native Indians, by purchase, and appointing Rev. Samuel Kirkland to superintend and approve of all negotiations with the Indians. After procuring this act, the shareholders hold a meeting and appointed Gen. Israel Chapin to go out and explore the country; Mr. Phelps to be the general agent, whose first duty it was to hold a treaty with the Indians, and purchase the fee of the soil; Mr. Gorham as an agent to confer with the authorities of New York, in reference to running the boundary or pre emption line; and Mr. William Walker as the local agent of surveys and sales.

Mr. Phelps soon made preparations towards holding a treaty at Kanadesaga and secured the influence of John Livingston one of the prominent (of the lesses) of the "New York Genesee Company," for that purpose. On arriving at Kanadesaga about 1st of June, he soon found that the "Niagara Genesee Company" were in conflict with Mr. Livingston's company and were holding and controlling the Indians at Buffalo Creek. Proceeding thither he arrived on the 4th July and securing the favor of John Butler, Samuel Street and others of the Niagara Company and Livingston, Caleb Benton and Ezekiel Gilbert of the New York "lesses," by promising them a number of townships, he was enabled at once to hold a council with the Indians and on the 8th of July he concluded a treaty with them, securing all the lands the Indians would then sell, estimated to contain 2,200,000 acres, paying therefor $5,000 and an annuity of $500 forever.

As there has been a common mistake with some historians in naming Canandaigua as the place of this treaty, it may as well be noted here that the evidence yet existing is conclusive that it was held at Buffalo Creek and that "Red Jacket," Billy" and the "Heap of Dogs" led Mr. Phelps from Kanadesaga to the treaty at Buffalo Creek. The incident narrated as having occurred at Canandaigua, probably occurred in 1789 at which time a payment was then and there due by Phelps and Gorham to the Indians, the latter claiming a larger amount than the treaty named and becoming greatly exasperated, claiming that they had been cheated.

After securing the title from the Indians, surveyors were soon set to work under the direction of Col. Hugh Maxwell, to divide the newly acquired territory into townships and run the Pre-Emption line, and considerable progress was made in the surveys before winter set in.

In order to perfect the title to the lands thus acquired, the legislature of Massachusetts passed November 21, 1788, an act entitled "An act for confirming to Nathaniel Gorham and Oliver Phelps, Esq., a certain tract of land pursuant" to contract made with them for that purpose."

This act after briefly reciting the contract and the performance of the conditions imposed on Phelps and Gorham goes on to recite their purchase of part only of the land

granted them by Massachusetts, from the sachems, chiefs and warriors of the Six Nations of Indians, by deed bearing date the eighth day of July last, and then fully grants and confers unto the said parties, their heirs and assigns all the right, title, claim and demand which the commonwealth has in and to the said tract, the boundaries of which were as follows: Beginning on the north boundary line of Pennsylvania, at the 82d mile stone, and from the said point or place of beginning, running west upon the said line to a meridian which will pass through that corner or point of land made by the confluence of Kanalasgwaicon Creek with the waters of the Genesee River; thence north along the said meridian to the corner or point last mentioned; thence northerly along the waters of the said Genesee River to a point two miles north of Kanawageras Village so called; thence running due west twelve miles; thence running in a direction northward so as to be twelve miles distant from the most westward bounds of the said Genesee River to the shore of Ontario lake; thence eastwardly along the shores of the said lake to a meridian which will pass through the first point or place of beginning afore mentioned, thence south along the said meridian to the point or place of beginning aforesaid, being such part of the whole tract purchased by the grantees aforesaid, as they have obtained a release of from the natives, together with all the with appurtenances to the aforesaid tract belonging. To have and to hold the same to them the said Nathaniel Gorham and Oliver Phelps, their heirs and assigns, forever, as tenants in common, and not as joint tenants."

The deed of the land thus procured from the Seneca Indians by the treaty as aforementioned, was witnessed by Rev. Samuel Kirkland and many others, and approved by him in the following words:

"Pursuant to a resolution of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, passed March 30th 1788, I have attended a full and general treaty of the Five Nations of Indians, at the chief village in their territory, on Buffalo creek, alias Teyoheghscolea, when the foregoing instrument or deed of conveyance, made to the Hon. Nathaniel Gorham, and Oliver Phelps, esquires, of a certain part of the lands belonging to the said Five Nations, the description and boundaries thereof being particularly specified in the same, was duly executed, signed, sealed, and delivered in my presence, by the sachems, chiefs and warriors, of the above mentioned Five Nations, being fairly and properly understood and transacted by all the parties of Indians concerned, and declared to be done to their universal satisfaction and content; and I do therefore certify and approve of the same."

The above was all the land Phelps and Gorham ever procured. In consequence of the rise in the price of Massachusetts paper, which was only worth about fifty cents on the dollar at the time of their purchase, and from other causes, they were unable to make the payments as required by their contract and were finally obliged to compromise with Massachusetts, and surrender their claims for the remainder of the land, which was afterwards sold by Massachusetts to other parties.

The survey of the land, under the direction of Col. Hugh Maxwell, which was begun in the summer or the fall of 1788, was, with the assistance of Augustus Porter, finished in the year of 1789, the tract being divided into "diverse tracts or townships, and as nearly in regular ranges as the sides contained within oblique or irregular lines would admit," there being seven long ranges, each six miles wide and in length from Pennsylvania to Lake Ontario, and two or three short ranges at the north-west corner. The ranges were numbered from one upward, commencing with number one on the eastern side, the eastern boundary being the old pre-emption line, and each range divided into townships or tracts of six miles square, numbered in each range from one at Pennsylvania line to fourteen at Lake Ontario.

## CHAPTER VI.

### PHELPS AND GORHAM SELL TO ROBERT MORRIS—MORRIS SELLS TO THE PULTENEY ASSOCIATION, AND CONVEYS TO CHARLES WILLIAMSON.

The purchase of Phelps and Gorham it will be recollected, was made and perfected in 1788, and the first pre-emption line run. This line running westward of Geneva, made the patents of Ryckman and Reed and also Seth Reed legal, and the place was laid out into lots and titles passed into the hands of the purchasers. Soldiers' warrants were also issued by the State to lands adjoining on the east of Seth Reed's location. Caleb Benton and other of the "lessees" were located here and had an interest in considerable town property as well as owning townships, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the first range and No. 9 of the second range, all of which stood in the name of Caleb Benton as representative for the lessees. The village of Geneva is located east of the north half of township 9 and the south half of township 10, the southerly line of the present town of Geneva being the south line of township 9, of first range or a continuation of said line.

Phelps and Gorham soon found that they could not fulfill their obligations to Massachusetts, and after surrendering the contract for the balance of the lands not yet acquired from the Indians, and finding their financial affairs yet embarrassed, they sought a purchaser for their unsold lands in the Genesee country. Both of the parties were acquainted with Robert Morris, who during the revolution had been Secretary of the Treasuay,and with a tact, as a financier never excelled, had been *the* man to extricate the country from pecuniary embarrassment, which at times threatened utter ruin, and who, the rich bankers of Amsterdam would trust and loan money to, when they had no confidence in the United States or its Congress—the active patriotic financier, who hesitated not to use his own credit for the benefit of his country.

Mr. Morris had already commenced speculation in lands,and when Phelps and Gorham applied to him, it was not long before they came to an understanding, and Morris became the purchaser of the remainder of the lands not yet sold, except two townships reserved by Phelps and Gorham, the lands so bought, being guaranteed to be one million acres. The deed of conveyance being from Nathaniel Gorham of Charlestown, Massachusetts, and Rebekah, his wife, and Oliver Phelps, of Connecticut, and Mary, his wife, to Robert Morris, of Philadelphia, and is dated 18 November 1790. This deed contains recitals of the titles of Phelps and Gorham, of the different ranges and townships: of the different tracts and townships sold and to whom sold: contains the usual guarantees, and conveys the title "*together with all and singular the woods, ways,waters, water courses, huntings, fisheries, fowlings, rights, liberties, privileges, immunities, hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever,*" *etc., etc.*

At an early period after the purchase, Mr. Morris employed Major Adam Hoopes to explore the country, who made an exceedingly favorable report. As Mr. Morris' land operations were very extensive, he had agents in the principal cities of Europe—Wm. Temple Franklin, a grand-son of Dr. Franklin, was his agent in London, to whom he had not given an idea of its value, and just as Mr. Morris became fully aware of its real value, and was in active preparation to bring it into market for settlers under his own auspices, he received news from Mr. Franklin, that he had sold it to an "Association" composed of Sir William Pulteney, John Hornby and Patrick Colquhoun.

As these purchasers were foreigners and could not hold the title in their own names, they made arrangements with captain Charles Williamson as their agent to come to this country, get naturalized, and take title in his name, and act on their behalf. After settling his affairs in Scotland, Mr. Williamson with his family and two well educated and intelligent Scotchmen, John Johnstone and Charles Cameron, who came as his assistants, sailed for this country and arrived at Norfolk in the fall or winter of 1791.

On the 9th of January 1792 he took the oath of allegiance at the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia, and by order of said Court was "admitted to be a citizen of the United States of America."

The conveyance of the lands being the entire purchase of Mr. Morris, was by deed from Robert Morris and Mary, his wife, to Charles Williamson, dated April 11, 1792, consideration seventy-five thousand pounds, sterling, and contains the same stipulations and covenants as the conveyance to Morris.

## CHAPTER VII.

### THE TWO PRE-EMPTION LINES AND THE GORE.

The State of New York, having by the contract made with Massachusetts at Hartford, 16th of December 1786, ceded to Massachusetts the pre-emption right to the territory west of a line to be run due north from the 82 mile stone on the Pennsylvania line, after Phelps and Gorham had contracted with Massachusetts, April 1, 1788, for that territory, and had secured cession from the Indians by the treaty at Buffalo Creek, July 8 1788, it became necessary to run and establish the boundary, or pre-emption line, between the territory of the two states.

For the purpose of surveying the territory acquired and running this line, arrangements were made by Mr. Phelps with Col. Hugh Maxwell to perform the work, under whose direction a good amount of surveying was done before the close of 1788, and with the assistance of Augustus Porter the whole was completed in 1789

Col. Seth Reed, Peter Ryckman, together with Dr. Caleb Benton, and some others of the lessees and other land speculators, were located at Geneva and interested in land operations there, and it was of importance to them that this place should not fall within the Massachusetts line.

A surveyor was furnished by these parties to assist the force of Col. Maxwell, who, being sick at the time was obliged to trust the work of running the line to his subordinates. The line was run, and a great fraud committed whereby Phelps and Gorham were cheated out of a large tract, and Reed and Ryckman and their associates, after a while, were successful in getting patents from the Sec. of New York, giving them title to the land ery

which they had in possession and on which Geneva is situated. Not a shadow of suspicion ever rested upon Col. Maxwell as being accessory to this fraud. Mr. Phelps was much disappointed in losing Kanadesaga, (Geneva), and moved his head quarters to Canandirque (Canandaigua).

It was not long, however, before suspicion of the fraud began to be awakened. Robert Morris becoming the successor of Phelps and Gorham, having purchased the unsold portion of the tract from them by deed dated November 18, 1790, became aware of the suspicion that had been awakened, and soon began to make preparations for a new survey. Being intimately acquainted with Major Adam Hoopes, who was a resident of Philadelphia, and who had been an aid of Gen. Sullivan in his expedition in 1779 to the Genesee country, and from whom Morris obtained valuable information as to the character of the county, he engaged the Major to explore the county, and afterwards to survey such portions as had not been surveyed, to re-survey others, and particularly re-survey the pre-emption line. The celebrated David Rittenhouse was then just perfecting some new surveyor's instruments, and he was employed to fit out Major Hoopes' expedition.

Before much, if any, had been done, news came that the land had been sold to an association of English capitalists, the sale being finally consummated by deed dated April 11, 1792, to Charles Williamson, who was the representative of Sir William Pulteney, John Hornby and Patrick Colquhoun.

In his sale Mr. Morris stipulated to have an accurate survey made and instructed Major Hoopes to prosecute the work. Andrew Ellicott with his two brothers, Joseph and Benjamin, had then just finished the survey of Washington city. Mr. Morris said of them in a letter to Mr. Colquhoun, "These three brothers are of the number of beings on whom nature sports her favors. They are great mathematicians as well as mechanical geniuses, to which they have added much practical experience, and good moral characters." The transit instrument for surveying by means of astronomical observations, having just been invented in Germany, it was determined to make use of it, and Benjamin Ellicott superintended its construction. Although to Major Hoopes was entrusted the fitting out of the expedition and the supervision of the surveys, the running of the new pre-emption line was committed by him to a corps of surveyors. Some accounts say that Andrew Ellicot was the presiding genius, assisted, upon arrival in this country, by Judge Augustus Porter, who had been a surveyor in the employ of Phelps and Gorham. Among the papers in the Secretary State's office is a certificate of the Surveyor General, June 8, 1796, in which it is stated that the line was run by Andrew Ellicott. On the 7th of April 1796, however, the Surveyor General filed a map of the new pre-emption line, with Benjamin Ellicott's affidavit attached, together with the certificate of the Surveyor General that the line run by Benjamin Ellicott hath been truly run and that the map was correct.

Be this as it may, it is certain that Benjamin Ellicott was of the party, as were also Armstrong, Saxton, and Briscoe, the latter dying suddenly just as the survey was completed, and being buried on the shore of a cove in Sodus Bay, known to this day as Briscoe's Cove, a stone being planted to mark his grave, which within the past few years has been washed away. So much pains were taken to insure correctness, the survey was never disputed, and the "new pre-emption line" was established as the true division line between the lands of the State of New York and those that had been ceded to Massachusetts.

This new line was run in the year 1792. In examining the old line, Major Hoopes had discovered the precise points of deviation to the westward. It had commenced soon after leaving the Pennsylvania line, gradually bearing off, with different inclinations, until it crossed the out-let of Crooked Lake, where an abrupt inclination to the westward was made for a few miles, then as if fearful that it was running to the west farther than it was necessary to secure a given object, the line was changed more to the east until it passed Seneca Lake, when it was run nearly north to Lake Ontario, where it terminated about three miles west of the centre of Sodus Bay, which latter point was the termination of the new line. The old line ran west of Geneva on what is now commonly known as the old pre-emption road. The new line entered Seneca Lake about two miles north of Dresden and thence through the Lake, passing out through near the center of the foot, and onward northwardly through the centre of what is now known as Pre-Emption Street, to Sodus Bay.

The strip of land between the two lines is known as "The Gore." This tract of land embraced the Reed and Ryckman reservation the Seth Reed and various other grants which had been made by the State. As the original survey had been presumed to be correct, patents had been granted and military land warrants located. The land now fell within the Massachusetts territory, being part of the Phelps and Gorham purchase, of which Charles Williamson held the title for the Pulteney Association.

The new pre-emption line having been run in 1792, the actual owners soon took meas-

ures to assert their proprietorship. Surveys were commenced and made as appears by the following returns which were made at Philadelphia on the 4th of February, 1793, and is found in the Survey Book of the Phelps and Gorham purchase, in the Pulteney land office at Bath. "Contents of sundry tracts between a line formerly run as the Massachusetts pre-emption line, and the true pre-emption line run by Armstrong, Ellicott and Saxton, as per enclosure marked No. 4."

In 1793 Mr. Williamson was much of the time in Geneva and took possession of the Reed and Ryckman location, causing a survey to be made, and had the same plot ed into building lots and tracts, which survey and map is the basis of all the titles at the present time, and in 1794 he built the hotel in Geneva. In the month of January 1794 a letter was addressed to him by 23 "Friends" at Jerusalem (Yates Co.) asking titles of the lands they were on, which title they had asked of the State in 1791, and a return of survey of the lands by the Surveyor General, for them was filed October 31, 1792, in Secretary State's office.

After the line was run, the legislature on the 24th of March 1795, passed an act, (chap. 23), "reciting that the Surveyor General of this State as soon as may be after the passage of this act, shall examine the line run by Benjamin Ellicott of Pennsylvania, as for the eastern boundary line of the lands ceded to the commonwealth of Massachusetts, in such manner as he shall deem best adapted to discover whether the said line has been truly run, and in conformity with the stipulations contained in the said act of cession, and if he shall judge that the said line hath been truly run, he shall then apply to the said Benjamin Ellicott for a description and map of the said line, and for a certificate attested by his oath that the said line so run by him is to the best of his knowledge and belief truly performed."

The Surveyor General in compliance with this act, obtained the map from Benjamin Ellicott to which is attached his affidavit, April 28, 1795, that it was "an accurate representation of the eastern boundary of Massachusetts pre-emption as run by himself and others," that the line run was in accordance with the act of cession, and that "the said pre-emption line was truly performed."

On the 6th of April, 1796, the Legislature passed another act (chap. 17) reciting that the Surveyor General had certified to the Commissioners of the Land Office, "that he judges the line run by Benjamin Ellicott," "hath been truly run," and that he had obtained the map of said line with a certificate and attested by the oath of Benjamin Ellicott; the act then enjoins the Surveyor General to immediately indorse his certificate on said map and file the same in the office of the Secretary of State and enacts that "after such deposit the line indicated on such map," "shall be taken and deemed and be the eastern boundary line of the land aforesaid." On the 7th of April, 1796 the certificate of Simeon De Witt, Surveyor General, and an affidavit acknowledging the same was attached to the map, and the same deposited in the Secretary's office. The map contains not only the new line, which is divided off into miles and is about 85 miles long from Pennsylvania to Sodus Bay, but also the old line with all the points of deviation from the true course, with the distance at those points from the new line, together with the character of the country, such as mountains, rivers, forests, etc., which the line crossed and is in fact a topographical map of the Gore. A copy of this map has been secured and is in the office of the village Trustees.

Great confusion ensued as to titles in "the Gore," after the new new line was run, which continued for a few years, but at last all was settled. Captain Williamson purchased some of the patents and made some other arrangements to quiet the title on 37,788 acres, for which July 8, 1799, he received 56,682. acres, or one and a half acres for one, as compensation lands from the state, adjoining the pre-emption line, in Wayne County on Lake Ontario, including 3 islands in Great Sodus Bay. John Livingston and Thomas Maul's, as owners of the Reed and Ryckman reservation, received in 1800, from the State, patents for nearly 50,000 acres each, being six for one, of lands near Lake Champlain, as compensation lands for their loss. Robert Troup agent for Sir John Lowther Johnstone obtained decision from the Land Office, January 25th, 1811 for compensation for lands in Seth Reed's patents of 2,000 acres, the titles of which under said patent, Charles Williamson had purchased of 1137½ acres, Dec. 25, 1799, and of 101½ acres, May 10, 1799, making in all 1529 acres, which the Commissioners of the Land office valued at $10 per acre, and also for compensation for 157½ acres in John Lansing Jr., patent, valued at $4 per acre, the compensation so to be made, to be taken in lands which might be purchased at any of the public sales of unappropriated lands, and in 1819 Col. Troup purchased at public sale, in part payment of same, village lots in Lewiston and Black Rock for $3,475.00.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### CHARLES WILLIAMSON, AND THE LONDON ASSOCIATES.

Charles Williamson had at first formidable difficulties to overcome, besides those consequent upon the task of settling a country so isolated from the older settlements, and possessing so many harsh features to keep back emigration. He was a foreigner and had held a captain's commission in the British army, with whom a large portion of the new settlers had just been contending on battle fields. Arms had been grounded, but feelings of resentment and prejudices were rife. The retention and occupancy of Forts Niagara and Oswego by the British, their claims upon the territory of Western New York, their tampering with the Indians, served to keep alive this feeling.

All this, however, wore off; in 1796 he was elected to the Legislature from Ontario county, and for three successive years, while in that capacity, he contributed, with great energy and perseverance, to different measures for the benefit of the region he represented. He was a Judge in Ontario county, and a Colonel of the militia, well educated, possessing more than ordinary social qualities, his society was sought after by the many educated and intelligent men who came here in the earliest years of settlement; he knew well how to adapt himself to circumstances, and to all classes that comprised the early adventurers; changing his habits of life with great ease and facility, he was at home in every log cabin, a welcome, cheerful and contented guest, with words of encouragement for those who were sinking under the hardships of pioneer life.

His acquaintance with the statesmen of England enabled him to urge upon them a reconciliation of all existing difficulties. He made the English government acquainted with the conduct of their agents in Canada, and with their machinations with the Indians to bring on another series of border wars, and with the conduct of British officers at western posts, in stimulating the Indians to stealthy assaults upon settlers, surveyors and explorers. In the infancy of settlements in the Genesee country, it was fortunate that English statesmen were extensive land holders, deeply interested in the security of peace and prosperity to the country, and that they had for their local agent such a man as Charles Williamson.

In the career of the pioneer enterprise, incident to the early settlement of the country, it may well be imagined that much money was required. To the east of Geneva was an uninhabited wilderness of more than one hundred miles, with but few struggling huts. Not a road within one hundred miles of the Genesee country, that would admit of any sort of conveyance, otherwise than on horseback, or on a sled when the ground was covered with snow. Roads had to be opened, and advancements often made to induce settlements. There was little money in the country, hardly enough for the purchase of the common necessaries of life, and of course, not enough to make any considerable land payments; lands had to be sold upon credit and payments of installments often postponed. Most of Williamson's enterprises were ahead of the time and of the condition of the country, and made slow returns. The resources were mainly the capital of his principals, the London Associates, and seldom, if ever, have property holders advanced larger amounts for improvements, or more freely at first; they began, however to be impatient after years had gone by, and the returns of their immense outlays were coming in but slowly to replenish their coffers. In 1800 the books showed that there had been expended for purchase money of land, agencies and improvements the sum of $1,374,470.10, and there had been received for lands sold but $147,974,83, and in addition to this, there were owing for lands purchased about $300,000. There were, however, an immense amount of unsold lands, farms, mills, etc., and an immense amount due them for land sold.

In the earliest years of the enterprise, Sir William Pulteney was, in a great measure, a silent partner, the management devolving principally upon Mr. Colquhoun, who devoted himself earnestly to the work. At the time of the settlement with Mr. Williamson, Sir William Pulteney had beco me the principal man in the association, his interest in the concern being so large, that upon the division of the lands, he received the principal portion; Gov. Hornby and Mr. Colquhoun's share, although quite small in comparison with the share of Sir William, was still a large estate, and has been known as the Hornby and Colquhoun estate, the agency of which has been at Canandaigua, John Johnstone, who come over with Williamson, being the agent until his death in 1806, succeeded by John Greig who continued in the agency until his death a few years since.

Mr. Williamson's first engagement with the London Associates was for seven years, though he continued in the agency beyond the expiration of that period. Although his principals were impatient at the slow returns, there was no serious misunderstanding between them, as the correspondence that took place in reference to the final settlement of the affairs of the agency in 1800 and 1801 fully exhibit a continuance of mutual esteem and friendship. He found the wild lands of

the Genesee country selling at from 1 to 4s. per acre, he left them selling at from $1.50 to $4.

In the final adjustment of his affairs with his principals, a very large estate was left him in farms, village property in Geneva and Bath, wild lands, bonds and mortgages, &c. Major James Rees, Esq., of Geneva, was his agent, until he finally returned to Scotland in 1803 or 4, when he left all his affairs in America with his friend, Col. Benjamin Walker, of Utica, who continued the agent until his death in 1818. John Woods, of Utica, succeeded to the agency of the Williamson estate, and finally it came into the hands of James H. Woods, Esq., of Geneva, who retained the same until his death, which occurred in New York, whither he had removed in 1853. Mr. Woods died Dec. 28, 1873 in the 74th year of his age; his remains were brought to Geneva and interred in the family lot, adjoining that of Williamson, in Washington Street Cemetery; there he had buried his wife in 1845, and there he had buried his five children who all arrived at maturity, bringing them home, as it were one by one as they died, for interment, until his turn came the last of the whole family. He had always caused his own and the Williamson plot to be neatly cared for, and now other loving hands perform that service, there being no other lots in the cemetery that receive more thoughtful or careful attention.

After Mr. Williamson left this country, he resided at the home of his family in Balgray, county of Dumfries, Scotland, and in London. He died in 1808, of yellow fever, on his passage from Havana to England. His wife did not leave this country with him, but continued to reside in Geneva, with her son Charles A. in the house next to and south of the Protestant Episcopal church on Main street, now the parsonage of that church. She died in 1824 and was buried in the Washington Street Cemetery, the inscription on the head stone of her grave being "Abigail, relict of Charles Williamson, died Aug. 31, 1824, aged 68 years."

Charles A. Williamson married a Miss Clark, of New York, and for a long time resided on Main street, Geneva, in the house now owned by Sidney A. Schieffelin, Esq. He removed with his family to Scotland about the year 1836, and took possession of the family estate there, assuming a title of nobility to which he had become entitled. He came on a visit to this country in 1848, at which time there was great excitement on account of the discovery of gold in California. In the spring of 1849 he took the overland route for that place, and died of cholera at Fort Laramie on the 14th of May; about the same time his wife died in Scotland. A few years afterwards Jas. H. Woods caused his remains to be brought to Geneva and interred in the family plot in Washington Street Cemetery, and a handsome monument with a round column or shaft broken at the top, overhung with a handsome wreath, erected over his grave.

## CHAPTER IX.

### THE PULTENEY TITLE.

The history of the land titles as here given is briefly recapitulated as follows:

I. Treaty of Cession between New York and Massachusetts, by Commissioners of each State, dated at Hartford, 16th December, 1786. Recorded in the office of the Secretary of State, in Book of Deeds, No. 1, R., [A] page 38, on the 2nd day of February, 1787.

II. Conveyances to Nathaniel Gorham and Oliver Phelps, by 1st. Grant of same lands to Nathaniel Gorham and Oliver Phelps, by an act of the Legislature of Massachusetts, April 1, 1788. 2d, An act confirming to Phelps and Gorham a certain portion of said lands, passed 21st November, 1788. Recorded in the office of the Secretary of State, Book of Deeds, No. 22, M. R., [A] page 226, 6th of February, 1789.

III. Deed from Gorham and wife and Phelps and wife to Robert Morris, dated November 18, 1790, acknowledged before James M. Hughes and recorded in the office of the Secretary of State, in Book M. R. [B], page 169, on the 24th of May 1, 1791, and in Ontario county clerk's office, Book 1, page 155, June 14, 1791.

IV. Deed from Robert Morris and wife to Charles Williamson, dated April 11th 1792, acknowledged before James Wilson, U. S. Judge, 20th February, 1795. Recorded in the office of the Secretary of State, in Liber of Deeds, No. 30, M. R., [I] at page 408, 28 September, 1798, and in Ontario county clerk's office, Book 1 page 211, June, 17[illegible] and Book 3, June 1795.

The following is a continuation of the title to the present day, April, 1872. All the papers in relation to the titles, and many more in relation to early history are to be copied in full or copious abstracts taken of them, and may be found in Miscellaneous Record Book in the Village Trustees' office. The different powers of Attorney are recorded in the various county clerks' offices, but nearly all of them in Steuben county. They contain full recitals of the title:

V. Deed from Charles Williamson and Abigail his wife to Sir William Pulteney, dated March 31, 1801, acknowledged the same day by Williamson and on the 1st May, 1801, by his wife, before Ja[illegible]

Hallett, Master in Chancery. Recorded in the Secretary of State's office in Liber M. R., [M] page 304, 21st October, 1801, and Ontario county clerk's office Book 7, page 642. 3d Rev. Stat., 2d ed., 225 sec.: Act to enable aliens to purchase and hold Real Estate, passed April 2, 1798. Ibid 226 sec.: "Act explanatory," passed March 15th, 1819.

The foregoing deed contains the usual covenants and conveys Williamson's title to the lands "*together with all and singular the buildings, edifices, mills, waters, water courses and streams of water, mines, minerals, salt and sulphur springs, rights, members, privileges, advantages, hereditaments, and appurtenances whatsoever to the same belonging, or in any wise appertaining.*"

The title having thus passed to Sir William Pulteney a full power of Attorney, dated July 29, 1801, was executed by him and sent to Robert Troup, to act as agent, to make sales and contracts, to grant conveyances, to receive all payments and to execute all papers. Col. Troup had been employed in making settlement with and procuring conveyances from Williamson, and had not desired or expected the agency, and was much surprised at the unexpected receipt of the power of Attorney. At first he absolutely refused, but

[illegible] the persuasion of Williamson he finally, [illegible]h very reluctantly, accepted and com[illegible]l his duties in September, 1801.

Exemplification from the Court of [illegible]ry of

. The death of Sir William Pulteney, May 13, 1805, intestate, and the descent cast upon Henrietta Laura, his only child, and heir at law.

. The death July 14, 1808, of Henrietta Laura Pulteney, intestate as to her real estate, and the descent cast in Sir John Lowther Johnstone, her cousin and heir at law.

. The death of Sir John Lowther John-tone, December 23, 1811, after making and publishing in duplicate a last will and testament.

done under the act of the Legislature, 26th January, 1821, to perpetuate this [illegible]ony. 20 J. R., 707; 5th Cowan, 321; [illegible]., 367.

er the foregoing, Powers of Attorney [illegible]ert Troup were executed by Sir James [illegible]ey and Henrietta Laura Pulteney, his March 4, 1806, and by Sir John Lowther [illegible]one and wife, Dec. 22, 1808.

title of the real estate which was very the greater part of the property having [illegible] by descent to Sir John Lowther Johnwho was a son of Sir George Johnstone dest brother of William Johnstone, who [illegible]d into the Pulteney family and became [illegible] thereafter as Sir William Pulteney) al estate portion of the Pulteney estate has been since then commonly known as the JOHNSTONE BRANCH

and the continuation is as follows:

VII. Exemplification from the Supreme Court of the will of Sir John Lowther Johnston, dated 7th of August, 1811, and proved in the Supreme Court by John Birch Dawson, one of the subscribing witnesses, on the 3d January, 1820, devising his lands in America to Ernest Augustus (Duke of Cumberland, afterwards King of Hanover) Charles Herbert Pierpont, (Lord Newark, afterwards Earl Manvers) David Cathcart, (Lord Alloway) and Masterton Ure, in trust, &c. Powers of Attorney to Robert Troup, by Ernest Augustus Duke of Cumberland, D. Cathcart and others. April 19, 1813; by Duke of Cumberland, Lord Newark, Lord Alloway, Masterton Ure and Lady Johnstone March 18 and June 28, 1814.

Under the powers contained in the will, the trust has been continued to this day, the title remaining in the trustees, the successors of the original trustees being as follows:

VIII. Deed and release of trust from Charles Herbert Pierpont to his co-trustees, dated 1st March, 1819. Proved before Lord Mayor of London by Isaac Samuel Clauntree, one of the witnesses, 25th March, 1820, and before Richard Rush, American Minister to England, on 18th June, 1823. This was done pursuant to Chap. 119 Laws of New York, 1816. Recorded in the office of the Secretary of State, in Book of Deeds No. 40, page 472, Sept., 1823.

Power of Attorney from David Cathcart (Lord Alloway) and Masterton Ure to Robert Troup 4th Aug., 1819.

IX. Deed from Ernest Augustus, David Cathcart and Masterton Ure to John Gordon, conveying joint interest in lands and appointing him co-trustee, dated 19th of November, 1827. Acknowledged 27th and 30th of May, 1834, by Ernest Augustus and David Cathcart, before Lord Mayor of London, and by Ure before the Lord Provost and Chief Magistrate of Edinburgh, on 28th June, 1834. Recorded in Steuben Co. Clerk's office, in Book A, Miscellaneous Deeds, March 11, 1836.

Power of Attorney, Aug. 17, 1830 from Masterton Ure and John Gordon to Robert Troup. This power of Attorney providing for a successor in case of Robert Troup's death, appoints Joseph Fellows his successor. Robert Troup died January 14, 1832 and Joseph Fellows succeeded him.

X. Proof of the death of Ernest Augustus on the 18th Nov., 1851, and David Cathcart on the 26th of April, 1829. By exemplified copy of commission and evidence, executed by Robert R. Campbell, Consul at London, on 19th May, 1860, with certificate of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. The

commission was executed pursuant to Chapter 161 of the Laws of 1860.

XI. Deed from Masterton Ure and John Gordon, dated 1st January, 1851, conveying all the interests of Gordon in the estates to Craven, Oswald and Estcourt as co-trustees with Ure. Recorded in Steuben Co. Clerk's office, 12th Nov., 1853, Book of Deeds, 69, at page 49; also, in Ontario Co. Clerk's office, in Liber 101, at page 148, 26th November, 1852; also, in Monroe Co. Clerk's office, in Liber 105, at page 407, 18th January, 1853.

Power of Attorney from Masterton Ure, Craven and others to Joseph Fellows 13th January, 1852, recorded in Monroe Co. Clerk's office in Book M. R. (3) page 140.

XII. Deed and release of trust from Masterton Ure to Craven, Alexander Oswald and Edmund Bucknall Estcourte, dated 4th April 1859, acknowledged before George M. Dallas, U. S. Minister at London, on 5th April 1859. Recorded in Livingston Co. Clerk's office, 8th August, 1858, in Liber 59 of Deeds, at page 278; also, in Steuben Co. Clerk's office, Oct. 15th, 1859, in Book 88 of Deeds, at page 539; also, in Monroe Co. Clerk's office 14th January, 1860, in Liber 155 of Deeds, at page 160.

Power of Attorney 21st Nov. 1859, from Craven, Oswald and others to Joseph Fellows and Wm. Young.

Power of Attorney from Craven, Oswald and Estcourt to Benjamin F. Young, 14th February, 1862. Recorded in the Steuben County Clerk's office, in Liber C of Miscellaneous Records at page 89, 14th April, 1862.

XIII. Proof of the death of Craven on the 25th August, 1866, by exemplified copy of commission and evidence executed by F. H. Morse, U. S. Consul, London, 15th June 1867, with certificate of Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, 15th July, 1867. This commission was executed pursuant to the Laws of New York.

XIV. Deed and release of trust from Alexander Oswald and Edmund Bucknall Estcourt to Henry C. Howard (Viscount Andover), George C. K. Johnstone, Henry Chaplin and James R. Farquharson, dated November 12, 1867, and recorded in Steuben county clerk's office, 2d May, 1870, in book 128 of deeds at page 188.

XV. Power of Attorney from Howard, Johnstone, Chaplin and Farquharson to Benjamin F. Young, April 11, 1868, recorded in Steuben county clerk's office in Liber C of M. R., page 455, May 23, 1870.

THE PULTENEY BRANCH.

Henrietta Laura Pulteney, the Countess of Bath, wife of Sir James Pulteney, having died 14 July, 1808, without issue, and intestate as to her real estate, by virtue of a power contained in articles of agreement, 23d July, 1794, previous to the marriage afterward had between her and Sir James Murray, (who upon his marriage took the surname of Pulteney), made and executed her will November 5, 1794, disposing of her personal estate in America, bequeathing the same for the benefit of Mrs. Elizabeth Evelyn Markham, then the wife of Rev. George Markham, afterwards the wife and widow of John Pulteney, and her children.

The personal estate in America "consisted of monies due on sales of real estate by contracts of purchase and by Bonds Mortgages and Securities taken on such sales."

This will was proved by Sir Thomas Jones and Sir Christopher Bethell Codrington, the two acting executors, August 22d, 1808. These executors having died the, Court of Chancery of England, May 29, 1852, appointed Arthur Kinnaird and Richard Williams as executors.

Elizabeth Evelyn Pulteney died March 18 1856, leaving a will, bequeathing to her son, the Rev. Richard Thomas Pulteney Pulteney, the residuary personal estate of the Countess of Bath, for his absolute benefit, and appointing him the executor of said will.

Upon the death of the Countess of Bath the legal title to the contracted lands in America passed to Sir John Lowther Johnstone who, during his lifetime, held said title as trustee for Mrs. E. E. Pulteney and her children, in respect to the purchase monies arising from the contracts of sale, the same action being continued by the trustees under his will, their agents in America, Robert Troup and his successor, Joseph Fellows, fulfilling the contracts of sale, by executing deeds for said lands, on the payments of purchase monies which were accounted for and paid over to Mrs. Pulteney and afterwards to her son and legatee, Rev. R. T. P. Pulteney.

The title of the personal estate having remained in the executors of the will of Lady Bath, an order of the court (in England) was had May 8, 1856, under which the said executors did on the 16th of June 1856 "assign, transfer, grant and convey to Richard Thomas Pulteney Pulteney his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns" all the property forming part of the estate of the Countess of Bath, situated in America, and vested in them as trustees.

The title having finally become fully vested in Rev. R. T. P. Pulteney, the estate was separated from the Johnstone branch, Joseph Fellows relinquishing that agency to Benjamin F. Young, but retaining the agency of this.

His powers was afterwards fully confirmed by a power of Attorney executed in the month of October, 1862, by R. T. P. Pul-

teney and wife to Joseph Fellows and Edward Kingsland.

On account of the advanced age of Mr. Fellows and the large sums of money in his hands belonging to Mr. Pulteney, and which he had invested in U. S. bonds and other securities, it became desirable to revoke his appointment, which was done by a power of attorney executed by Rev. R. T. P. Pulteney and Emma, his wife, dated May 23, 1871, to Edward Kingsland of Geneva, in which the appointment of Joseph Fellows was revoked and full powers granted to Mr. Kingsland.

The Rev. R. T. P. Pulteney died the latter part of June, 1874, leaving a will dated 16th July, 1873, bequeathing his estate to Maximilian Hammond Dalison and Alfred Markley, in trust, for the benefit of his wife, and his children after her death. A power of attorney was executed by these trustees to Edward Kingsland, 8th December, 1874, which is recorded in Steuben county clerk's office, in Liber 147, page 541. Mr. Kingsland continues the agency under this power to this day.

## CHAPTER X.

SULLIVAN'S CAMPAIGN—KANADESAGA (KANADASEAGA, KANADASAGEA, KANADASAGO, KANADASEAGEA, KANADASEAGA KANESADAGA, GANUNDASAGA, KANIADASAGOUA, CANADASAGO, CANADESAGA, ETC.)—THE OLD CASTLE.—INDIAN MOUND—THE OLD CASTLE FARMS.

The horrible massacres committed by the Indians and the desolating destructions of their incursions on the frontiers of New York and Pennsylvania in 1777 and 1778, aroused the indignation of the country and incited Congress to authorize Gen. Washington to send an expedition into the country of the Six Nations of Indians, to lay waste their villages and to inflict such punishment upon them as to make them feel the evils they had brought upon others.

These Indians had, at this time, made considerable progress in civilization, were less wandering in their habits, had more permanent places of residence, having numerous villages, cultivated fields growing large crops of corn, large orchards and rude gardens.

The expedition was committed to the command of Gen. John Sullivan, and finally commenced the forward march 22d of August 1779, on the way destroying all the Indian towns and planted fields within reach, and arrived at Newtown, (Elmira) on the 29th of August, where they found the enemy concentrated; the British and Tories under the command of Col. John Butler, and the Indians under the Chief—Joseph Brant, (Thayendanegea.) A battle immediately ensued, in which Brant and another chief, Kiangaraehta, particularly distinguished themselves, and after a severe conflict of two hours, the enemy becoming convinced that they would soon be completely hemmed in, precipitately abandoned their works and fled. Gen. Sullivan pursuing nearly two miles and destroying everything that could possibly be of service to the Indians. A few days after the battle. Gen. Sullivan learned from an escaped prisoner, that the Indians had reported that the King of Kanadaseagea had been killed in the battle at Newtown, and from the description given of his dress and person it was believed by Gen. Sullivan that he had seen his body among the slain.

Among the papers of Captain Machin, who was in this expedition, the following certificate was found:

"This may certify that Kayingwaurto, the Sanakee chief, has been on an expedition to Fort Stanwix and taken two scalps, one from an officer and a corporal. They were gunning near the Fort, for which I promise to pay at sight ten dollars for each scalp. Given under my hand at Buck's Island."

"JOHN BUTLER,
Col. and Supt. of the Six Nations
and their allies of His Majesty."

This Kayingwaurto was a principal Seneca Chief at Kanadesaga. He was killed by a scouting party of Sullivan's army, and in his pocket the certificate was found. Whether he was the King of Kanadaseagea above mentioned or not, is unknown to the writer of this.

Having completed the destruction at Newtown, the army moved forward, destroying all the Indian villages found in their march, as also all the orchards and Indian corn. The following narrative in relation to Kanadesaga is taken from the life of Brant by Col. W. L. Stone:

"On the 7th of September (1779) Sullivan crossed the outlet of Seneca Lake, and moved in three divisions upon the town of Kanadaseugea—the Seneca Capital—containing about sixty houses, with gardens, and numerous orchards of apples and peach trees. It was Sullivan's object to surround the town, and take it by surprise. But, although Butler had endeavored to induce the Indians to make a stand at that place, his importunities were of no avail. They said it was of no use to contend with such an army; and their capital was consequently abandoned, as the other towns had been, before the Americans could reach it. A detachment of four hundred men was sent down on the west side of the lake, to destroy *Gotheseunqueau, and

*Thus spelled by Gen. Sullivan whose official report is the basis of this narrative. Captain Theodosius Fowler, in his diary writes it Karhanguash

(C) Since the above was in print I have been informed that the child mentioned, was taken by Capt.

the plantations in the neighborhood; while at the same time a number of volunteers, under Col. Harper, made a forced march in the direction of Cayuga Lake, and destroyed Schoyere. Meantime the residue of the army was employed, on the 8th, in the destruction of the town, together with the fruit trees, and fields of corn and beans.* Here as elsewhere the work of destruction was complete. In leaving their town, the Indians had fled with such precipitancy that a young white male child, about seven or eight years old, was left behind, asleep. It was taken in charge by an officer, who, from ill health was not on duty. In retiring from the campaign for the same cause, he took the child with him, and nothing more of its history is known."

The work of destruction having been completed the army moved on and in two days arrived at Kanaudaque, where they found "twenty-three very elegant houses mostly framed, and in general very large, together with very extensive fields of corn," all of which were destroyed.

As it is not the purpose of this article to give even a brief history of Sullivan's campaign, save only as it relates to the operations at or near the village of Geneva, we will follow it no further, but return to the principal object of this sketch, viz: Kanadesaga. Before quitting the subject it may be well to state that a very large number of Indian towns were destroyed, together with large orchards of apple and peach trees, and an immense amount of corn, estimated to be 160,000 bushels, and so great was the destruction and desolation that the Indians were completely disheartened and terror stricken, and never afterwards recovered from the blow that was given.

Col. Seth Reed having procured a patent from the State of New York early in 1789 of 2,000 acres of land, north of the Reed and Ryckman location, the western boundaries of which was the old pre-emption line, which line ran through the very heart of Kanadesaga, the east line of the Old Castle of the Seneca Indians being only three to four rods west of the line. Several deeds of the land were made by Col. Reed to different parties, but at this late day it is very difficult if not impossible to locate the subdivisions of this tract as made by these conveyances, from the fact that the land was wrongly patented by the state, on account of the pre emption line being falsely run; in a few years when the new pre-emption line was run, the land was found to fall within the cession to Massachusetts, and actually at the time of the discovery to belong to Charles Williamson, and from whom the titles of the present day emanate—the old conveyances being valueless except as a claim upon the State for compensation, which was finally obtained.

The Indian Castle, (or as it was termed by the old settlers, the "Old Castle") at Kanadesaga was situated in the field on the south west corner of the old pre-emption road and the middle road to Canandaigua, which latter road being a continuation of the road on the north bounds of the village and designated and known as North street, will be designated hereafter as such. This field is now owned by the nursery firm of William and Thomas Smith. There was in this field and in the neighboring grounds a large apple orchard which was destroyed by Sullivan's army, September 8, 1779, but many of them threw up sprouts from the roots, and a few years afterwards there was again considerable fruit from these sprouted trees. A few of these trees are yet standing, two of them in the field just mentioned. There were also a large number of Peach Trees that were likewise destroyed by the army. In that same field there is yet quite a large Indian mound, situated about twelve rods from the pre-emption road and about the same distance from North street, and which is generally reported to be the burial ground of the chiefs and head warriors of the Senecas of Kanadesaga. About twenty-five rods to the south of this mound and running in a south easterly direction is Castle Brook. Near the edge of this Brook and between it and the mound is the site of the Old Castle. Little or no trace of its location is left, however, at this time, as the field has been so often plowed, and the bed of the Geneva and Southwestern Railway having been graded through one corner of the site, all the indications of the spot on which the Old Castle stood are about entirely obliterated. This location was the Capital of the Seneca Indians.

The farms in the neighborhood were, in early times, designated as the Old Castle farms. The farm on the west side of the old pre-emption line, on both sides of North street, and long known as the Crittendon farm, was emphatically *the* Old Castle farm, containing as it did, the site of the mound and the Old Castle itself as heretofore stated. This field, in accordance with an understanding with the Indians, was never plowed by Mr. Crittendon. The Indians, for many years, the latter part of the summer, in large

Machin, and died of small-pox two years after.

I have also had the pleasure of examining the diary of Capt. Fowler, mentioned in the above note, through the kindness of Gen. John S. Clark, and find the spelling of the Indian town, as noted by Col. Stone, to be incorrect—the diary says KASHANQUASH. It is perhaps needless to say that the location of this Indian town was at Cashong creek, near Seneca Lake. G. S. C.)

*Journal of Captain Fowler.

numbers made annual pilgrimages to this place. This continued until about 1835 at which time the numbers of Indians began to decrease, until in late years the visits finally ceased, and the land was finally plowed and cultivated, excepting the old mound which has never yet been disturbed.

On the east side of the old pre-emption line, the fee of the land becoming vested in Charles Williamson after the running of the new pre-emption line, and being part of the Gore, some of the farms were designated as Old Castle farms, those most familiarly known as such being as follows:

The Mullender farm, being about one half mile north of North street, only a few years since passed out of the posession of the Mullender family and is now owned and occupied by Merrell & Coleman, as a nursery. The old Mullender house, built about 1796, is yet standing, but the old barn has lately been torn down.

The adjoining farm south, commonly called the Bennett farm, now owned and occupied by T. C. Maxwell & Bros., as a nursery, was originally in the possession of Major Sanford Williams, and it was there that his wife died in 1794, and was buried in the burial plot at the south-west corner of the farm on the old pre-emption road. She was a sister of the wife of Jerome Loomis and of William Tippetts. Some years since Henry H. Loomis, Esq., caused the remains of his Aunt, Mrs. Williams, to be taken up and re-interred in the Pulteney street Cemetery, in the family plot of Tippetts and Loomis, the head stone of her grave being the oldest in date in that cemetery.

The next farm south of the Bennett farm is the old homestead farm of Jerome Loomis which is yet in the possession and occupancy of his children.

Not long after the death of his wife, by some arrangement with Charles Williamson, as the writer is informed, Major Williams surrendered the farm on which he lived and came into possession of the farm on the east side of the old pre-emption road, which was known as *the* Old Castle farm, and which was bounded on the north by the Loomis farm, and running south to North street and past North street to the Nathan Reed farm. This farm afterwards came into the possession of William Swailes who occupied it many years, and finally sold it to Charles Godfrey. Mr. Godfrey sold a lot of about ten acres off of the north-west corner, viz: on the North side of North St., adjoining the old pre-emption road, on which the house yet standing, although lately thoroughly overhauled and repaired, was built by Major Williams for his residence when he first obtained the farm. This lot was sold by Mr. Godfrey to Philo Bronson, and is now owned by T. C. Maxwell & Bros., but is yet familiarly known as the "Bronson" place. Mr. Godfrey also sold about 30 acres off of the south-east corner, being south of North street and east of Castle street, (the Old Castle road), which is now owned and occupied as a nursery by William & Thomas Smith, except about two acres at the corner of the streets named on which the Octagon house stands, and which is now owned by Mrs. N. Denton.

After owning and occupying the farm some years, Mr. Godfrey sold to Nehemiah Denton, Esq., who yet owns and occupies all that part of the farm south of North street and bounded on the west by the old pre-emption road and on the east by Castle street or the old Castle road, comprising about 127 acres. The remainder of the farm on the north side of North street having been sold and is now owned as follows; lot of about 10 acres adjoining the "Bronson" lot owned by Cyrus Churchill; the next, about 25 acres, owned by Chauncey Sheffield; the next, about 25 acres, owned and occupied by Sears & Henry as a nursery.

## CHAPTER XI.

### THE BURIAL GROUND (NOW PULTENEY STREET CEMETERY.)

This plot of ground was set apart and reserved for a "burial ground" by the first survey made under the direction of Charles Williamson in 1793, although the deed for the same was not procured until February 16, 1825, at which time it was conveyed by Robert Troup, attorney etc., to George Goundry, John Sweeney, William W. Watson, William S. DeZeng and David Cook, Trustees of the village of Geneva and their successors in office, and it was stipulated that its use should be for a cemetery or burying ground. Another deed was procured from B. F. Young, Esq., Attorney for Pulteney estate, Sept. 20, 1873, conveying all title in full to the Trustees of this village.

It would be interesting to know when the first interments were made, but this would be difficult and probably impossible to ascertain at the present time. It was not probably until after the year 1800, as those of previous dates were doubtless re-interments.

The oldest grave stone in this ground is the one of which the following is the inscription: "In memory of Martha Williams, wife of Sanford Williams, who died May 9, 1794, aged 27 years." Her husband lies in another part of the ground not very far from her remains, and the inscription over his grave is, "In memory of Sanford Williams

who died December 11, 1821, aged 6 years." While Geneva was yet known as Kanadesaga, Mr. Williams and Jerome Loomis were in partnership, and in 1790 they made a location and procured a patent for 400 acres of land north of Seth Reed's location, which, afterwards came in possession of Mr. Williamson: they were for quite a time prominent in land operations in early times, In the early manuscripts at Albany Mr. Loomis' name is frequently spelled, as it was then pronounced Jerom. His remains are here interred and the inscription is, "Jerome Loomis born August 19, 1757, died April 19, 1840. A patriot of the revolution. So Jesus slept." His wife and five children were interred in the same place. A number of his children are yet living, most of them on the old homestead, on the old pre-emption road just north of the village. Another old grave stone is inscribed, "In memory of Betsey, wife of Joseph Cole, who died November 1801, aged 62 years." This grave is near the entrance and a large oak tree is growing on it. A few of the other older interments are, infants of Frederick and Eliza Backenstose, 1798, 1801, 1803; children of Polydore B. Wisner, 1797, 1802, 1804; children of Wm. Hortsen, 1803, 1805; Rachel Barnard, an infant, 1805; Jacob W. Hallett aged 71, June 30, 1806; John Rumney, 62 years, Oct. 31, 1808. Among the interments are:

James Rees, born April 23, 1763, died March 24, 1851. Elizabeth Rees, his wife, died March 17, 1837, aged 66 years.

Rev. Andrew Wilson, died June 12, 1812, aged 40 years.

Richard Hall died February 12, 1812, aged 85 years.

Richard Hogarth died August 16, 1819, aged 82 years.

John Hall died February 28, 1812, aged 71 years.

Gen. Walter Grieve died December 21, 1826, aged 53 years; Janet, his wife, died September 19, 1825, aged 48 years.

John Tillman died July 1, 1822, aged 75 years.

David Cook died February 17, 1835, aged 61 years.

Peter Dox died November 24, 1831, aged 89 years.

Capt. John Sheather died June 19, 1835, aged 84 years.

Robert S. Rose died November 24, 1835, aged 61 years.

Samuel Colt died August 8, 1834, aged 64 years.

David Field died September 1, 1837, aged 91 years.

Major Peter Gordon died Feb. 8, 1835, aged 88 years.

John Clark died October 2?, 1841, aged 80 years.

Foster Barnard died March 4, 1844, aged 72 years.

Bostwick Noble died March 24, 1843, aged 54 years.

John Woods died July 26, 1845, aged 76 years.

Polydore B. Wisner died July 13, 1844, aged 45 years.

Elijah H. Gordon died December 21, 1854, aged 83 years.

Herman H. Bogert died June 25, 1851, aged 83 years.

David Hudson died January 12, 1860, aged 78 years.

Garvin Lawson Rose, died October 25, 1867 aged 70 years.

Abraham Dox died August 19, 1862, aged 82 years.

This list might be greatly extended, but the limits of this article forbid.

## CHAPTER XII.

It has been previously stated that Charles Williamson very early commenced operations in Geneva, and expended money quite liberally in making valuable improvements. Through the kindness of Edward Kingsland, Esq., the writer has been permitted to examine some of the old ledgers in his possession, and such information extracted from them, in regard to the expenditures for improvements made in Geneva, as may be interesting.

HOUSE AT MILE POINT.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1794, Dec. 13. To paid David Bryant for 100,000 Brick | $ 500 00 |
| 1795. The charges for this year are | 2,342 93 |
| 1796. " " " " " " | 1,247 55 |
| 1797. " " " " " " | 127 86 |
| | $4,898 34 |
| Cr. These items are for surplus materials sold | 79 95 |
| | $4,928 34 |

The second ledger contains

MILE POINT FARM.

| | |
|---|---|
| The items charged from Nov. 1797, to Dec. 1800, amount to | $988 55 |

MILE POINT BARN.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1798. The charges are | $356 50½ |

MILE POINT HOUSE, BARN AND FARM.

| | |
|---|---|
| The amounts of the previous accounts are transferred to this, and with additional charges make the expenditures to Dec. 1800, amount to | $11,665 42 |

The house at Mile Point was a large and handsome mansion, standing on the triangular piece of ground at the head of Main St., fronting to the north and commanding a fine view of the street. It was destroyed by fire more than fifty years ago, previous to which it had the reputation of being "haunted," and was a terror to many of the people.

The date of building the Geneva Hotel in Turner's Pioneer History, is stated as 1794, and this has generally been copied in later publications. This is an error, as the following accounts show that the Hotel was erected in 1796. This building is still standing at the south corner of Washington street and Park place, and is occupied by A. B. Smith, M. D., as the Hygienic Institute. The first account found is on the oldest ledger, and is as follows:

HOUSE AT GENEVA.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1796, | March 24. | To Elaph Norris, for lumber..... | $ 130 00 |
| | July 19. | To James Barden, for lumber delivered to D. Abbey..... | 1,411 50 |
| | Oct. 13. | To paid Williams & Frazer for Iron delivered to John Woods..... | 3 50 |
| | " " | To John Woods, for mason work done by him and 57,950 Bricks... | 774 90 |
| | Dec. 27. | To Grieve & Moffatt, for sundries furnished as per accoun't..... | 2,456 40 |
| 1797. | Jan'y 21. | To David Abbey, paid him amount of his account of Carpenter work, per Mr. Lovett's measurem't £1219.1s. 6d. Do. for amount of his account of days' work, £533, 12s. 5d. | $4,523 47 |
| | April 15. | To Williams & Frazer, for glass furnished per D. Abbey's order.... | 7 58 |
| | May 3. | To Grieve & Moffatt, for sundries furnished by the ... etc..... | 220 16 |
| | Sept. 8th. | To David Abbey, for balance due him in settlement 13th June last, at Geneva..... | 39 94 |
| | | | $9,577 39 |
| Cr.—1801. | July. | By office at Geneva for amount transferred.. | 9,577 39 |

☞The entry in Day Book or Journal A., transferring this account, shows that the above account is the Geneva Hotel. It is as follows:

GENEVA OFFICE DR. TO SUNDRIES.

| | |
|---|---|
| To House at Mile Point..... | $4,228 84 |
| To House at Geneva (Hotel)..... | 9,577 39 |

Another account on this old ledger is

GENEVA HOTELL.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1796. | Oct. 10. | To cash paid Ismar Crittenden for 11 tons Hay, at 12.50..... | 137 50 |
| | Dec. 27. | To Grieve & Moffatt, paid Sam'l Stockings for 10 tons Hay..... | 100 00 |
| | | | $237 50 |
| 1797. | Oct. 1. | By office at Geneva for amount rendered... | 237 50 |

The second ledger contains the following accounts:

HOTELL, BARN AND SHEDS.

1797. The expenditures charged amount to..... $1,384 56½

This amount is transferred to another account, entitled:

GENEVA HOTELL, OUT-HOUSES, &c.

This contains many charges, besides the foregoing, and also a transfer from Bath office of $9,846.39, which last item is mainly composed of the account before mentioned as House at Geneva. The total charges being up to Dec. 1800, and amount to $15,563 62

HOTELL FARM (OLD CASTLE) AND BARN

The expenditures charged to this amount from June, 1797 to Dec. 1800 are a balance of... ..... $1,195 40

The location of this farm is uncertain: some think it was the Mullender farm, others that it was the farm on the east side of the old pre-emption road at North street.

The account against the first inn keeper of the Hotel is as follows:

THOMAS POWELL (of Geneva.)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1796. | Nov. | To cash paid David Williamson for garden seeds..... | $ 12 56 |
| | | To cash paid him drafts on D. Walsh, Esq..... | 950 00 |
| 1797. | Jan. 30. | To cash paid him 3 drafts on ditts for $60,$59,$50,..169 and in cash $30 (to amount only..... | 117 00 |
| | Feb. 7. | To cash paid your draft in favor of Alexander & Tomlinson..... | 773 69 |
| | April 4. | To cash paid Annanias Platt for a carriage and harness on your account on account of ditts... | 100 00 |
| | April 15. | To cash paid Williams & Frazer for sundries furnished by them as per account..... | 45 33 |
| | April 15. | To Dudley Walsh, paid him your draft being in part payment of negroes purchased by you..... | 330 00 |
| | May 13. | To Grieve & Moffatt paid them your account of sundries ..... | 155 93 |
| | | | $2,485 21 |
| 1797. | Oct. 1. | By office at Geneva for amount rendered..... | 2 485 21 |

GENEVA WATER WORKS COMPANY.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1796. | Sept. 10. | To cash paid my draft in favor of Timoth Allen on D. Walsh, Esq., delivered to J. Hallet .. | $200 00 |

The second ledger also contains

GENEVA WATER WORKS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1797. | May 9. | To cash call on 20 shares at $7..... | 140 00 |
| 1799. | Nov. 12. | To H. Beekman..... | 11 [illegible] |
| 1800. | Dec. | To Bath office ..... | 200 00 |

HOUSE (on the farm occupied by Isaac Mullender, called Old Castle.)

1797. To Grieve & Moffat paid J. Ritter for framing the house as per his receipt £27.10.0. Ditto paid for hewing timber for ditto £4 10.0.. $80 00

The second ledger contains

MULLENDER HOUSE (Old Castle).

1795, Aug. 25, to Dec. 1799 the items charged, including $281.43 for Mullender's barn, amount to .. ... ..... $ 842 15

This house is still standing on the same farm on east side of the old pre-emption road about a half mile north of North street, the place now being owned by Merrell & Coleman.

MAJOR HOOPS.

Sept. 1792 to Sept. 1795. To items charged $ 326.31
Cr. Received from Robert Morris... ... 47.42
Feby. 1801 by surveying acct. for 8 lotteries 278.92

The following items are found charged in the Surveying Expense acct. on the oldest ledger:

1793, June 25. Paid James Armstrong for surveying 6 towns..... $ 395.00
1795, Jan. 3. Paid Mr. Annin for surveying Geneva town..... 58 50
1801, Feb. Paid Major Arthur Hoops for sundries..... 278·92

## CHAPTER XIII.

### THE LESSEES—A NEW STATE PROJECTED.

The operations of the Lessees having been so intimately connected with the early history of Kanadesaga and Western New York a more extended account of their acts and designs, it is thought, will be acceptable in connection with the papers that have been written in relation to the early history of Geneva.

The following extracts together with Leases No. 1 and 2, are taken from Henry O'Reilly's history of Rochester and Western New York, published in 1838:

"The unsettled condition of affairs about the close of the revolutionary war furnished opportunity for the partial execution of a daring project with reference to the lands of the Six Nations. The scheme of erecting a new state from the western portion of the territory of New York was probably suggested or encouraged by the successful efforts of the "Green Mountain Boys," in forming a new state called Vermont from the north-eastern counties of Cumberland and Gloucester."

"It was during the years 1787-8 that the project with reference to the Indian lands of Western New York was partially executed by an association of citizens, among whose names may be recognized some that became prominent in the subsequent history of the state."

"This scheme for the erection of a new state was partially developed by the contracts made with the Six Nations for leasing most of their territories at an insignificant annuity—the calculation obviously being that before many of the nine hundred and ninety-nine years of the lease should have elapsed the whites would have so multiplied in the Indian land as to bid defiance to the state of New York, as well as to the red men upon whose territories they were encroaching under the specious pretense of a *lease*. The law forbade any *purchase* from the Indians without leave of the lawful authorities." * * * *

"But the legislature promptly responded to the warning of Governor George Clinton, by adopting measures for counteracting these schemes. The law of March, 1788, strengthening the former enactments against intruders on Indian lands, to which the jurisdictional and pre-emptive rights were claimed by this state, was particularly levelled at these lessees, and the resolute course adopted against them, the Governor being authorized to use fire and sword if needful, at once crushed the adventurous project and destroyed the embryo state."

"The Lessees, thus precluded from the prosecution of their plans, beset the Legislature for a grant of land, and in 1793 they succeeded in obtaining an appropriation of ten miles square, to be located in the discretion of the Surveyor-general. The tract selected for their use by the Surveyor-general was a part of the old military tract in the northern part of the state."

"The Lessees were likewise rewarded with some townships by Phelps and Gorham for services rendered in facilitating the arrangement between the latter and the Indians respecting the purchase of the *right of the soil* in the land for which the *pre-emptive right* had been bought from Massachusetts."

### THE LESSEE CONTRACTS.

#### NO. 1.

"An agreement made on the 30th of Nov. 1787, "between the chiefs or sachems of the Six Nations of Indians of the one part, and John Livingston, Caleb Benton, Peter Ryckman, John Stevenson and Ezekiel Gilbert, for themselves and their associates, of the county of Columbia and state of New York, of the other part," witnessed that the said chiefs or sachems of the Six Nations, on certain considerations afterwards mentioned, leased to the said John Livingston and his associates, for a period of 999 years, "all the land commonly known as the lands of the six nations in the state of New York, and at the time in the actual possession of the said chiefs or sachems." From this lease

was except d any tract of land which the chiefs or sachems might choose to reserve for themselves and their heirs, "said reservations to revert to the Lessees in case they should afterwards be relinquished by the Indians," &c. The payments to be made by the Lessees and their successors were designated as "a yearly rent of two thousand Spanish milled dollars, payable on the 4th of July in each year of the 999 for which the lease was drawn." Among the signatures to this lease are the marks of Farmer Brother, The Corn-planter, Red Jacket, Little Beard, &c. Of the witnesses are N. Rosecrantz, George Stimson, Joseph Smith and Peter Portel, Jr.

NO. 2.

"Whereas, the six nations of Indians, by their sachems and warriors, did, by a certain deed bearing date Nov. 30th, 1787, lease to John Livingston and his associates all that tract known as the lands of the Six Nations within the State of New York, for a period of 999 years, at an annual rent of $2,000. And whereas, at a treaty held at Buffalo Creek with all the aforesaid Six Nations, in presence of their superintendents, the said Six Nations, by their chiefs, sachems, and warriors, by and with the consent of the said John Livingston and his associates, granted and sold to Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, of Massachusetts, a certain seat of land contained within the aforesaid demise or lease, comprehended within that part of the territory of the said Six Nations whereof the right of pre-emption had been ceded by the said state of New York to the commonwealth of Massachusetts. And whereas the said Six Nations have reserved to their own use the residue of all the land contained within the said part whereof the right of pre-emption hath been ceded as aforesaid. And, whereas, from the aforementioned sale and and reservation, there remains subject to the aforementioned lease all the other lands mentioned and contained in the aforesaid lease, the right of pre-emption whereof hath not been ceded to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as aforesaid, excepting and reserving what is hereinafter excepted and reserved, and to be made upon the condition hereinafter mentioned, to wit: First, excepting and reserving one mile square near the outlet of the Cayuga lake, and one of the Onondaga salt springs, with 100 acres of land adjacent to the same, to accommodate the same with firewood and other conveniences; also excepting and reserving to the aforesaid Indians one-half of the Falls, and convenient places for wiers for the purpose of catching fish and eels from the Cross Lake to the Three Rivers; also reserving an exclusive right to one of the salt springs near Onondaga, with fifty or one hundred acres of land around the same for firewood and other conveniences for boiling salt, together with an equal right in common for eeling and fishing so far as to the Oneida Lake. All which reservations, as well as the annual rent itself hereafter mentioned and reserved to be paid to the said Indians, are made and given upon this express condition, that whenever the aforesaid Iddians shall part or dispose of the same or any of them, in that case, the New York *Geneva Company shall have the right of acquiring the same. *Wherefore know ye*, That in consideration of the several matters above mentioned, and of the sales, exceptions and reservations above mentioned, whereby the lands in the aforesaid indenture contained now remaining subject to the aforesaid lease are greatly reduced in quantity, We, the sachems, chiefs, and warriors of the said Six Nations, lessors in the aforesaid demise, have exonerated the lessees and their assigns forever from the payment of $1,000, or one equal half of the annual rent or sum of money in the aforesaid indenture reserved and made payable to the Six Nations," "(The 4th of July, 1791, was fixed as the day for the commencement of the annual payments of rent under the lease as now modified—payable in cattle, at reasonable prices, to be delivered at Canadasago (near Geneva) each year during the period of the lease)." "With these alterations, we, the same sachems, chiefs and warriors, do, by these presents, hold good and valid, and confirm to the lessees the aforesaid demise heretofore made, to all intents and purposes, during the term and continuance thereof, &c."

"This lease is signed by several chiefs of the Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas as well as Mohawks. Among the Mohawks appears the signatures of 'Jos. Brant, Thayendanegea,' and the names attached to the marks X of the other chiefs appear to be in the handwriting of that noted Mohawk. The name of Red Jacket is spelled Shagoyeghwatha. Among the signers are the names of seven of the 'chief women.' The witnesses were Samuel Kirkland, the missionary; Jas. Dean, the interpreter; Jos. Brant, David Smith, Ben. Barton, M. Hollenback, Elisha Lee, and Ez. Scott."

Col. W. L. Stone, in his life of Red Jacket gives an account of the lessees and their probable intention of a new State, substantially the same as narrated by O'Reilly, and refers to the leases as above quoted, giving the substance of them in his statement. In his life of Brant, in giving an account of the controversy between the St. Regis and Caughnawaga Indians and the State of New York in relation to the claims for compensa-

*This is probably an error, and should be Genesee. —G. S. C.

tion for land, which those Indians made, and into which controversy Brant was involved by the accusation of those Indians, in referring to the leases, Col. Stone says: "This sale to Col. Livingston was first made by forty-five chiefs of the Six Nations in 1787, and was confirmed in the following year by a second deed signed by sixty-five of their chiefs, and witnessed by Colonel John Butler and Joseph Brant. The purchase by Col. Livingston, being unconstitutional, was annulled." * * * "It was as a witness only to the deed of sale to Colonel Livingston, that the name of Captain Brant came to be involved in this controversy."

This corroboration is deemed necessary inasmuch as lease No. 2 is not, at the present time, to be found in the office of the Secretary of State. Lease No. 1 is yet in that office, and the long list of Indian names attached is quite interesting. There are only a few English synonyms, except what has been before stated, among the forty-five signatures, and they are as follows, viz: Big Throat, Big Tree, Infant, Chaw Tobac, Hot Bread, Captain David. The Corn Planter's name is signed Kyantwaka or John Abeel. In some publications it is spelled Obeal, but Colonel Stone decided that it should be O'Bail.

In the office of the Secretary of State is another lease, of which the following is a brief substance: January 8, 1788. Livingston, Benton and Gilbert, with Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors of the Oneida Nation, conveyed "All that tract of land commonly called and known by the Territory of the Oneida Indians, &c." These lands were leased for 999 years for a rent of $1,000 for the first ten years, and increasing after that time at the rate of $100 annually until the sum amounted to $1,500, which was to remain the annual rent afterwards. The lessees also agreed whenever they might erect Posts and Storehouses at the places designated where the old Royal Block Houses stood, to give $100, and in case of the discovery of mines, to allow the Indians their share of the profits. This paper is signed by seventeen chiefs, and as the names have all a Christian name attached to the Indian name, they were probably the Christian sect or tribe. A few are given as a matter of curiosity:

Christian Thomgraghsoghhare.
William Rugentarougwen.
Hendrick Thaghenghororenghte.
Ludwick Thaghsaweta.
Paul Thomgatashager.
David Sagorakaronga.

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## CHAPTER XIV.

THE MASSACRE AT CHERRY VALLEY—MRS. CAMPBELL A PRISONER—THE LAST ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL OR SACRIFICE OF THE WHITE DOGS AT KANADESAGA—A FINE DISH OF SUCCATASH—GUYANGUAHTA OR GRAHTA, THE SENECA KING.

The invasion of Cherry Valley and the brutal massacre of the inhabitants on the 11th of November, 1778, by the combined forces of Tories and Indians under the command of Captain Walter Butler and the Indian Chief, Brant, is a matter of history.

The number of prisoners taken at that time was between 30 and 40, who were kept captive while on the retreat until the second day, when most of them were released and sent back with a letter from Capt. Butler to Gen. Schuyler, in which he proposed to make arrangements for an exchange of the prisoners retained, for his mother and her family, who were detained within the American lines. At the time of the flight of Col. Butler and his son with Col. Guy Johnson in 1775, Mrs. Butler and her family had been left behind, and the Committee of Safety would not, afterwards, permit them to leave the country. The prisoners retained by Capt. Butler for the purpose of this proposed exchange, were Mrs. Campbell, the wife of Col. Campbell, and her four children, and Mrs. Moore and her children. This exchange was, after the lapse of many months, finally effected.

The prisoners retained were taken with the enemy, passing down the Susquehanna to its junction with the Tioga, thence up the Tioga to Elmira, and thence across to the head of Seneca Lake and along down the eastern border of the lake to the village of the Senecas at Kanadesaga, the distance traveled being between two and three hundred miles. Here they arrived about the last of November, when the children were taken from their parents, not even excepting the infant, and given to different families and tribes of Indians.

Soon after her arrival at Kanadesaga, Mrs. Campbell was given to a family to fill the place made vacant by the death of one of its members. Being skilful with her needle, she made garments for the family, and becoming so useful to them and their neighbors, she so ingratiated herself into favor, that she was treated with great kindness and was under no restraint, even being permitted to keep sacred the Sabbath day, on which day the Indians pursued their usual avocations. Seeing that she wore caps, an Indian to show her a kindness, presented her with one that was cut and spotted with blood, telling her that he had taken it from the head of a woman at Cherry Valley. She was shocked

and horrified to find that it had belonged to Jane Wells,* the companion of her youth.

During her residence at Kanadesaga, Mrs. Campbell was a witness to the great annual Thank-giving festival and sacrifice of the White Dogs, the last that probably was ever held there, an account of which is narrated in the "Annals of Tryon Co." by her grandson, and from which the following is extracted.

"Early in the winter, the nation assembled at Canadaseago, to hold a general council, and to celebrate their late successes. This village was laid out with some regularity, and in almost a circular form, enclosing a large green. The houses were generally built of bark, after the rude style of the Indians. A few were of hewn logs. The ceremony was commenced by a sacrifice. A White Dog was killed and borne along in procession to the centre of the village. In the mean time others went round to every house with a basket, in which each individual was required to deposit something. This basket with all its contents, was first cast into the fire. Afterwards the Dog was laid on and thoroughly roasted, and was then eaten. This was followed by eating, drinking and dancing which continued for several days."

Col. Stone in his life of Brant says of the festival held at this time, that after the arrangements had been completed, the warriors, horribly disfigured with black and red paint, "commenced their savage rites by singing of their own exploits, and those of their ancestors,—by degrees working themselves up into a tempest of passion; whooping, yelling, and uttering every hideous cry; brandishing their knives and war clubs, and throwing themselves into the most menacing attitudes, in a manner terrific to the unpractised beholder. There was no prisoner put to the torture, or attired with the raven deathcap on the occasion; but the prisoners were paraded, and the scalps borne in procession, as would have been the standards taken in civilized warfare in the celebration of a triumph. For every scalp, and for every prisoner taken, the *scalp-yell*, or, as it is sometimes called, the *death-halloo*, was raised in all its mingled tones of triumph and terror. The scalp yell is the most terrific note an Indian can raise, and from the numbers that had fallen during this expedition, it was often repeated."

*The massacre of the family of Robert Wells, which consisted of himself, his mother, his wife, and their four children, his brother and sister John and Jane, and their domestic, was a ferocious and cruel act of barbarity. John Wells, the father of Robert, had been an intimate friend of Col. John Butler and also of Sir William Johnson. See "Annals of Tryon Co. by William W. Campbell, the author of which was a grand-son of Mrs. Campbell mentioned above.

Mrs. Campbell seems to have retained the remembrance of the leading points of the ceremonies, although perhaps she was not able to comprehend or gain a full knowledge of the extended particulars of this festival. The deficiencies of her account however are supplied from the "Life of Mary Jemison," otherwise called "The White Woman," who was taken captive by the Indians when a child, in 1755, and continued with them until her death in 1833, a period of seventy-eight years and also from the statement of Rev. Samuel Kirkland,* as published in "Dwight's Travels. Vol. 4, and which is extracted and published in the appendix to "Annals of Tryon Co." From these are gathered the following particulars.

This festival is their great national and most solemn sacrifice, and is always celebrated at the time of the old moon in the last of January or first of February, the whole of the solemn season being spent in feasting and dancing, and continues, according to the Rev. Dr. Kirkland for seven days, although from Mary Jemison's statement it was formerly strictly observed nine days, but in later days the time was reduced to seven and even to five days.

A large committee having been appointed, preparations were made for the accommodation of the whole tribe. Two White Dogs, without spot or blemish, are selected and killed, so that there be no wound or effusion of blood, which would unfit them for the sacrifice; their faces, ears and parts of their bodies having been painted, they are then curiously and fancifully dressed with ribbons and feathers, and being thus decorated and beautified, they are suspended about twenty feet high, near the door of the council-house. The practice of sacrificing two Dogs was formerly strictly adhered to, but in later years only one was sacrificed.

Everything being thus ready and the council-fire having been lighted, two select bands, one of which being women, ornamented with a variety of trinkets and each holding an ear of corn in their right hand,

*Rev. Samuel Kirkland, was for years a missionary among the Six Nations, chiefly the Oneidas. He was the son of Rev. Daniel Kirkland, and was born in Norwich, Conn., Dec. 1, 1741. His education was commenced at Dr. Wheelock's school, Lebanon, Conn., where several Indian youths were being educated, and from them learned their language, becoming especially proficient in the Mohawk. Having graduated at Princeton, N. J., he proceeded to the Indian country, and by the friendship and assistance of Sir William Johnson, he arrived at Kanadesaga in January, 1765, where he resided until July, 1766, when he removed to the Oneidas. He was a brigade chaplain in Sullivan's expedition, and was often employed by the government in various Indian transactions, his services being often called into requisition, in addition to his duties as chaplain, as an interpreter and diplomatist, and were especially directed to the interests of his country. He died at Paris, Oneida county, in March 1808.

commence the performance of dancing in a circle around the council-fire, after which they proceed to every house and dance in a circle around each fire.

In the course of the ceremonies, each house is visited by the committee, who take the fuel from the fire and scatter the embers and ashes about the floor, discharging one or two guns as they leave each house, and proceed from house to house until all have been visited and every fire extinguished. These fires are only renewed after all the coals and ashes have been removed from each hearth by a virgin spark from a flint.

During the festival the committee, being dressed in the skins of wild beasts, and their hands covered with a dried turtle shell, go through the town, performing a dance, firing a gun every time they start, each carrying a basket in which to receive any alms that may be bestowed, which consists of tobacco and other articles that are used for incense or sacrifice.

On one of the festival days, masks or false-faces made of husks are worn by the committee, giving them a hideous appearance, and smearing themselves with dirt, they bedaub every one who refuses to contribute something towards filling their baskets of incense. During the time of the festival, the national affairs of the tribe are reviewed by the chiefs and the future welfare considered.

Towards the close of the festival, a funeral pile is made, upon which the Dogs are placed, and the pile set on fire. When they are partly consumed, one of the Dogs is taken off, and put in a large kettle with vegetables of every kind that have been raised during the last year, and then the other Dog is consumed by the fire, the baskets of tobacco and other articles having been also burned as incense in the fire, the ashes of the pile are gathered up, carried through the village and scattered at the door of every house. This ceremony being ended all the inhabitants feast upon the contents of the kettle, and thus terminates the festival.

The account of Mary Jemison varies a little from the last paragraph above, which is according to the statement of Rev. Kirkland, as is as follows:

"On the last day, the whole company partake of an elegant dinner, consisting of meat, corn and beans, boiled together in large kettles, and stirred till the whole is completely mixed and soft. This mess is devoured without much ceremony, some eat with a spoon, by dipping out of the kettles; others serve themselves in small dippers; some in one way and some in another, till the whole is consumed. After this, they perform the war dance, the peace dance, and smoke the pipe of peace; and then, free from iniquity, each repairs to his place of abode, prepared to commence a new year.

In addition to the foregoing, the statement, of Mary Jemison says, that, during the festival, the sins of the tribe are collected into the bodies of the committee, "and after having transfused the whole of them into one of their number, he, by a peculiar sleight of hand, or kind of magic, works them all out of himself into the dogs," who "are burned together with the sins with which they are loaded."

Mr. Morgan in his "League of the Iroquois" objects to the idea that the Indians believed in any atonement or expiation for sin, or that they believed in a transfer of sins to the dog to be thus borne away on the principle of the scape-goat of the Hebrews. He contends that the belief of the Indians was that "an act once done, was registered beyond the power of change," but that they also believed "that good deeds cancelled the evil, thus placing heaven, through good works, within the reach of all." In relation to the sacrifice of the white dog, we quote as follows: "The burning of the dog had not the slightest connection with the sins of the people. On the contrary, the simple idea of the sacrifice was, to send up the spirit of the dog as a messenger to the Great Spirit, to announce their continued fidelity to his service, and also to convey to him their united thanks for the blessing of the year. The fidelity of the dog, the companion of the Indian, as a hunter, was emblematical of their fidelity. No messenger so trusty could be found, to bear their petitions to the Master of Life. The Iroquois believed that the Great Spirit made a covenant with their fathers, to the effect that, when they should send up to him the spirit of a dog, of spotless white, he would receive it as a pledge of their adherence to his worship, and his ears would thus be opened in a special degree to their petitions." *

The proposal for the exchange of prisoners having been accepted, arrangements were set on foot in the spring of 1779, and for this purpose "Colonel Butler came to Canadasaago to confer with the Indians in reference to their giving up their prisoners. When prisoners have been given to a family—that family return them with great reluctance. They usually fill the places of deceased relatives. To return them for money, or any other compensation, would be equivalent to selling their relatives. A council was called, which continued sitting for several days. Col. Butler urged with great earnestness the Indians to give up their prisoners in exchange for his wife and children. The assent of the council was finally obtained. The

* League of the Iroquois, p. 216.

residence of Mrs. C. was intended to have been only temporary at Canadaseago. This spring she was to have been placed in a family in the Genesee village, who were kinsfolk of the family with whom she lived at this time, and also of Gnyanguahta, or as he was usually called Grahta, the Seneca king. It was necessary to obtain their assent, and the old king himself set out on this errand. Having succeeded he, returned to Canadaseago, and immediately informed Mrs. C. that she was now free. The good old king had always been kind to her. Though considerably advanced in life, so that he did not join in the war, yet he performed his journey on foot. Before her departure for Niagara, he came up from his residence near the outlet of the Seneca lake, to bid her adieu, and to wish her success on her journey. He said: "You are now about to return to your home and friends, I rejoice. You live a great way, many days journey from here. I am an old man and do not know that I shall live to the end of the war. If I do, when the war is over, I will come and see you.' This was spoken through an interpreter.

Shortly after this, Mrs. Campbell was sent to Niagara, arriving there in June 1779. While detained at Niagara, the campaign of Sullivan against the Indians took place, and the Indians being driven into Fort Niagara, Col. Butler was enabled to get from them all her children, except the infant which she found in the possesion of Mrs. Butler on her arrival at Montreal in June 1780, Mrs. Butler having previously been released. She met with many harrassing incidents on her journey from Montreal, but finally arrived at Albany in safety with her children, where she was soon joined by her husband.

## CHAPTER XV.

### THE PRE EMPTION LINES ONCE MORE—(BEING A CONTINUATION OF CHAPTER VII, AND SHOULD BE READ IN CONNECTION WITH THAT CHAPTER.

The subject of pre-emption lines has already occupied a long chapter which contained all the information, based upon positive facts, then obtainable by the writer. That chapter was the result of much study and laborious investigation, and after a lengthened and extensive correspondence, which embraced every known or supposed source of information. The statements made in "Turner's pioneer history of Phelps and Gorham purchase," were carefully examined, and where they were not attested by satisfactory reference or evidence, were received with great caution.

The conclusion drawn by the writer, of appearance of fraud in running the old pre-emption line, has, since the publication of that chapter in the newspaper, been contested, the objector contending that although the line was erroneous it was honestly run, but admitting that the new line was run by men perhaps better qualified tor the work and with much superior instruments and better appliances.

O'Reilly's history of Rochester gives a history of the two lines and narrates an incident which occurred in running the old line which indicates fraud, but also adds that "the variation of the compass was the cause of far greater error in running this line than resulted from the covetousness of possessing Geneva."

In "Turner's History of the Holland Purchase," is a narrative from the reminiscences of Judge Augustus Porter, in which the running of the pre-emption is narrated, and an intimation of fraud in relationto the old line.

The opinion of the writer was, however, mainly formed from the official map of the new pre-emption line, on which the old line is also delineated, by Benjamin Ellicott, in the office of the Secretary of State, a copy of which now lies before the writer and from which the points and distances of deflection of the old line are taken, and are as follows:

The lines both commence at the 82d mile stone on the Pennsylvania line, the old line deflecting to the west, and the points indicated are the number of miles from the starting point, the distance between the two lines being given after each.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| At | 6 | miles, | distance between, | 4 | chains | 12 | links. |
| " | 12 | " | " | 19 | " | 75 | " |
| " | 18 | " | " | 46 | " | 32 | " |
| " | 22½ | " (about) | " | 59 | " | 20 | " |
| " | 24 | " | " | 69 | " | 25 | " |
| " | 26 | " | " | 72 | " | 65 | " |
| " | 27 | " | " | 1 m. | | | |
| " | 30 | " | " | 1 | " | 10 | " |
| " | 45½ | " (about) | " | 1 | " | 78 | " 25 " |
| " | 49 | " (nearly) | " | 2 | " | 56 | " 50 " |
| " | 65 | " | " | 2 | " | 39 | " 68 " |
| " | 81 | " | " | 2 | " | 65 | " 64 " |

The length of the new line being 84 miles, 77 chains and 45 links.

A careful examination of the foregoing will perhaps enable the reader to arrive at an intelligent conclusion.

The reminiscences of Judge Augustus Por-

*This point on the old line is just after crossing the outlet of Keuka or Crooked lake.

†At this point the new line enters Seneca lake The se two points show the greatest deflection in the id line.

ter, heretofore alluded to, were written out by him during the latter years of his life, and finally signed March 11, 1848, and committed to the Young Men's Historical Society of Buffalo, and by them transferred to the Buffalo Historical Society, in whose possession the manuscript volume of reminiscences now is. The Judge died June 10, 1849, in the 81st year of his age. As he was one of the earliest surveyors and continued long in the employ of Phelps and Gorham, and other early proprietors, his knowledge of facts enabled him to supply in his statement many missing links in the chain of history, and throw much additional light, all of which is received and considered by all present authorities to be reliable, conclusive, and final. A portion of them have been published, as heretofore stated, and additional extracts have been kindly furnished by Rev. Albert Bigelow, Cor. Secretary of the Buffalo Historical Society.

From these reminiscences we learn that Judge Porter's advent to the Genesee country was in May, 1789, he being then 20 years of age, and coming out to survey and allot two townships, for the proprietors, of whom his father was one. In this work he was assisted by Frederick Saxton, and while completing the same he entered into further engagements as will be seen from the following extracts from his manuscript:

"Col. Hugh Maxwell, a surveyor, had contracted with Phelps and Gorham, the previous year, to run out into townships the whole of that part of their purchase to which the Indian title had been extinguished. Not having completed the work, he entered into an agreement with Mr. Saxton and myself to survey a portion, consisting of about forty townships, which now constitute part of Steuben county. We entered immediately upon this survey, and completed it in the course of the season." * * * * * * * "Messrs. Phelps and Gorham and the Lessees, as soon as their treaties were concluded, [1788] determined at once to send surveyors to run out the line which was to divide their property on the east line of the Massachusetts claim. Geneva was then a small settlement beautifully situated on the bank of Seneca Lake, rendered quite attractive from its lying adjoining an old Indian settlement, in which was an orchard. This orchard had been destroyed by Gen. Sullivan in his celebrated campaign, in 1779, but sprouts had grown up from it into bearing trees. As it was known the line must pass near this place, some anxiety was felt as to which party it might belong. Col. Maxwell, on the part of Phelps and Gorham, and Mr. Jenkins, on the part of the Lessees, as surveyors, proceeded to the point of beginning at the 82d mile stone on the incorrectly run, and it was charged that the incorrectness was in part a fraud of Jenkins, whose object was to secure to his employers, the Lessee Company, the location of Geneva. The suspicion of fraud led to a re-survey of this line, under the direction of Robert Morris. The line being run, Col. Maxwell commenced immediately the survey of the tract west of it, and in the course of the season run out about thirty townships and began the survey and allotment of Canandaigua."

* * * * * * *

"Early in 1790, Phelps and Gorham agreed to sell to Robert Morris of Philadelphia, (the eminent financier of the Revolution,) all the land in their Indian purchase, except what had been previously sold and were specially excepted, amounting in all to about fifty townships. Immediately after the purchase by Mr. Morris was concluded, in consequence of the suspicion always entertained of the incorrectness of the easterly line of the purchase, (which had been run as before stated by Maxwell and Jenkins,) he determined to have it re-surveyed. He accordingly employed Andrew Ellicott, the Surveyor-General of the United States, to run this line again. I was with Mr. Ellicott, and assisted him in a part of his survey. It was made with great care, with the very best instruments then in use, and the result showed a very considerable difference between it, and that made by Maxwell and Jenkins. It was found to pass about as far east of Geneva as the other passed to the west of that place, and the triangle bounded by these two lines and lake Ontario was found to contain about 34,000 acres. The Maxwell and Jenkins and the Ellicott lines will be seen by reference to the map hereto annexed."

On page 42 of Judge Porter's manuscript, is Note A, written by himself, and which is as follows:

"I joined Mr. Ellicott while he was engaged in running the line, at the point where he was engaged in coming up from the south, it is brought in contract with the Seneca lake, marked "A" on the map herewith. This point is from 10 to 12 miles south of Geneva, a due north line from which, as will be seen, would not touch the shore, until it reached the foot of the lake, a distance of about 12 miles. From this point, after concerting with Mr. E. a system of signals, I traversed with my compass the west shore of the lake, and pursued this traverse around the north end, until I came to the meridian as shown by my instrument, corresponding with that at my starting point. Mr. E. and I being now 12 miles apart, with an open expanse of water between us, could only communicate with each other by means of night signals. The mode of doing this was as follows: I raised two lights, one quite high and the

other less elevated. Mr. Ellicott did the same, both of us being provided with Telescopes. He then moved his shorter light (his longer one being fixed on the line he was running) in the direction he wished me to move mine, right or left, until my shorter or moveable light was on the true meridian, when, as previously agreed on he was to indicate. I was right by placing his lower light immediately under his higher one. The point thus fixed at the foot of the lake is at "b" on the annexed map."

The map above referred to is affixed to and folded within the manuscript volume of reminiscences, and is entitled "A map of Phelps and Gorham's Indian purchase, copied from one made in 1791 by Augustus Porter from actual survey." It is a pen and ink copy made expressly for the manuscript volume. The following letterings are on the map in their respective places.

"Old Pre-emption line run by Maxwell and Jenkins in 1788." "New Pre-emption line run by A. Ellicott and A. Porter in 1791."

From the foregoing it is positively ascertained that the old pre-emption line was run in 1788 which date could only be inferred from the facts stated in chapter VII; and that the date of running the new pre-emption line was 1791 instead of 1792 as stated in said chapter on page 11 in two places. (The reader will please correct those dates with a pen.) The fact is also established that Andrew Ellicott run the new line, although from the fact that his brother Benjamin furnished the map in the office of the Secretary of State, and from his certificate on the same, he must have been one of the corps of surveyors.

The three brothers, Andrew, Benjamin and Joseph Ellicott were all very prominent scientific civil engineers in early times, the two latter having much to do with surveys in Western New York, whither they both removed and became very prominent citizens. Both were employed in the surveys for the Holland Land Company and of which Joseph had the agency until a few years before his death, which occurred in 1826, his brother dying the succeeding year.

Andrew Ellicott was born January 24th, 1754. In early life he attracted public attention by his scientific attainments. Enjoying the confidence and friendship of President Washington and his successors, and having intimate relations with Franklin, Rittenhouse and other prominent scientists, his services were in constant requisition by the general and state governments, from the close of the revolutionary war to the day of his death.

In 1786-7 he was one of the commissioners, that established and marked the boundary line between the states of New York and Pennsylvania.

The state of Massachusetts having by deed, 18th April, 1785, in accordance with acts of her legislature of 13 Nov. 1784, and 17 March, 1785, ceded to the United States all her claim to the territory west of a meridian line at the west end of lake Ontario, the same cession having been made by the state of New York, 1st March, 1781, in accordance with act of 19th February, 1780, Andrew Ellicott was directed by the U. S. government in 1789 to survey and establish this line, being the eastern boundary of this cession, and the western boundary of the lands ceded to Massachusetts by the state of New York and by Massachusetts contracted to Phelps and Gorham, in the performance of which duty he was assisted by Frederick Saxton on behalf of Phelps and Gorham. By the establishment of this line, New York lost the Presque Isle tract (now Erie, Pa.,) which the state of Pennsylvania finally obtained from the U. S. While in the performance of this work, he made the first accurate measurement of the Niagara river from lake to lake, with the height of the Falls, and the fall of the Rapids.

In 1790 he was employed by the government to survey and lay out the city of Washington, in which work he was assisted by his brotners.

In 1792 he was made Surveyor-General of the United States, and in 1795 superintended the construction of Fort Erie; from 1796 to 1801 he was employed as commissioner on behalf of the United States for determining the boundary between the United States and the Spanish possessions in North America, his journal of which was published in 1803. He was also a frequent contributor of mathematical and other scientific papers to the American Philosophical Society.

* He was appointed Professor of Mathematics United States Military Academy, September 1, 1813, and continued as such until his death, August 29, 1820, at West Point at the age of 67.

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ERRATA—The following should be inserted at the bottom of the first column on page 28. North line of Pennsylvania, and ran through to Lake Ontario a line known as the Pre-emption line, which passed about a mile and a quarter west of Geneva, and which was the basis of surveys made by Phelps and Gorham. This line afterwards was proved to have been.

* The writer is indebted for this information as well as some of the previous items, to the Hon. G. W. McCrary, Secretary of War, United States.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE IROQUOIS, OR SIX NATIONS OF INDIANS.

The Six Nations of Indians, who were the predecessors of the white people in the possession of the State of New York, were the most valiant, the proudest, and the most advanced toward civilization of any of the Indian tribes of America.

This confederacy is supposed by some to have been founded about the year 1450, and was composed of the following nations, which when first discovered by the whites, were located as follows: "The Mohawks, in the valley of the Mohawk; the Oneidas, southeast of Oneida lake; the Onondagas, in the valley of Limestone creek, near the east line of Onondago county; the Cayugas, along the east bank of Cayuga lake, and north as far as Savannah, in Wayne county; and the Senecas, near Victor and Hon-oye Falls, in Ontario and Wayne counties, their jurisdiction extending as far westward as the Genesee river. In 1712, the Tuscaroras being driven out of North Carolina on account of an attempt to exterminate the whites, a portion of them were adopted by the confederacy and assigned a location by the Oneidas between them and the Onondagas.

This league known first as the five nations, and afterwards as the six nations of Indians, were variously designated as follows: The Confederates, by the English; the Iroquois, by the French; the Maquas or Mahaknase, by the Dutch; and are often mentioned as the Mingoes or Mingoians, and sometimes designated the Agannschione or United People, and their confederacy they styled the Rennuchioni.

The territory occupied by them, or more properly, the people occupying the territory, they called "the Long House," and they designated themselves as Ho-de-no-si-o-ni, or people constituting the Long House, and believing that they excelled the rest of mankind, they called themselves Ongue-Honwe, that is, men surpassing all others.

The Senecas were the keepers of the western door of the Long House; the Mohawks of the eastern door; and at a more modern date, the Cayugas are mentioned as having in charge the southern door, which was at Tioga. To these points most of the trails centered, and at each was stationed an official, who opened or closed the door to messengers, traders, or travelers, as he saw fit.

Sir William Johnson in 1768, said that the Mohawks were the true old heads of the confederacy, and the chieftain Brant claimed that they were the leading nation at the formation of the confederacy. The Senecas numerically considered were, in later years, and perhaps always, by far the most powerful of the confederacy. These confederates were, with few exceptions, the conquerors of all the Indians east of the Missi-sippi. Their national affairs and external relations were conducted and superintended by a great council, which assembled, as occasion required, at Onondaga, the central canton, to whom from the formation of the league, had been committed the keeping of the great council-fire. This council-fire they were forced to extinguish in 1696, when their village was destroyed by Count Frontenac; it was again put out in the spring of 1777, and again in 1779, at which time their village was destroyed, and it has never been relighted in the old locality.

This council was composed of Sachems of the different nations, whose office was created at the institution of the league, and who were vested with the supreme power of the confederacy. De Witt Clinton said that "all their proceedings were conducted with great deliberation, and were distinguished for order, decorum, and solemnity, in eloquence, in dignity, and in all the characteristics of personal policy, they surpassed an assembly of feudal barons, and were, perhaps, not far inferior to the great Amphyctionic council of Greece."

The sachemships were originally fifty in number, although in later years, the council seems to have been composed of as many as eighty. The original distributions of Sachems were, Mohawks, nine; Oneidas, nine; Onondagas, fourteen; Cayugas, ten; Senecas, eight; these Sachems were equal in rank and authority, but as it was the peculiar province of the Onondagas to guard the council-fire, to that nation appertained the office of principal civic chief or chief sachem. To the Mohawk nation, as being the first in rank in the confederacy, belonged the office of principal war chief. Next to the Sachems in position, were a class of chiefs, who in the course of time became quite numerous, and obtained an important voice in the administration of the affairs of the nation. As late as 1838, the number of chiefs of the Senecas had increased to the number of seventy.

Each nation was divided into tribes, and although some authorities name only three, the Tortoise, the Bear, and the Wolf, yet there were in addition to these, the Beaver, Deer, Snipe, Heron and Hawk tribes, making eight in all. No man was allowed to marry into his own tribe, and the descent being in the mother, the children were of her tribe.

No personal slavery was permitted, the captives taken in war were either killed or adopted into families to supply the place of deceased members, or allowed to settle in

villages by themselves near the large towns of the conquerors, and thus became a part of the nation.

One of the peculiar features of the Indian polity was, that their lands belonged to the warriors who defended them, and to the women who tilled them, and who moreover, were the mothers of the warriors, and consequently, they could not be alienated without their tacit consent, or their active participation in case of differing with the Sachems who ordinarily negotiated treaties.

Very much might be said of this confederacy, as these Indians were celebrated for their eloquence in council, their political wisdom, and their military prowess and skill, but the limits of this article forbid, and a few brief extracts will suffice.

De Witt Clinton called them "the Romans of the Western world," and said that "they were a peculiar and extraordinary people, contradistinguished from the mass of Indian nations by great attainments in polity, in government, in negotiation, in eloquence and in war." President Dwight said: "The Iroquois have certainly been a very extraordinary people. Had they enjoyed the advantages possessed by the Greeks and Romans there is no reason to believe they would be at all inferior to these celebrated nations. Their minds appear to have been equal to any efforts within the reach of man. Their conquests, if we consider their numbers and their circumstances, were little inferior to those of Rome itself. In their harmony, the unity of their operations, the energy of their character, the vastness, vigor and success of their enterprises and the strength and sublimity of their eloquence, they may be fairly compared with the Greeks. Both the Greeks and the Romans, before they began to rise into distinction, had already reached the state of society in which men are able to improve. The Iroquois had not. The Greeks and Romans had ample means for improvement —the Iroquois had none."

The Hon. Ellis H. Roberts in his address at the late centennial at Newtown (Elmira,) said: "When the earliest white man visited them, they lived in cabins, they cultivated grain, they raised a species of wild potato, they practiced skillful fortification, they were the arbitrators and negotiators for other tribes, they often matched the skilled diplomatists of France and England in making treaties. As warriors, their exploits do not suffer in grandeur and heroism by any comparison. They ran in conquest farther than Greek arms were ever carried, and to distances which Rome surpassed only in the days of its culminating glory."

It was not by the brute force of numbers, but having first obtained fire arms, and through their alliance with the Dutch and English preventing other tribes from getting arms, that the Iroquois obtained the domination of the country. Their daring and venturesome achievements have induced the belief of their greatness in number which is greatly exaggerated. After white men came to know them, they never numbered more than 2,500 warriors, nor as many as 15,000 souls. Those who had the best chance of knowing, place the force of fighting men in 1667, as reported by the agent of Virginia, 2,250; in 1687, as reported by de Nouville, Governor of Canada, 2,000; in 1763, the census made by Sir William Johnson, was, Mohawks 160, Oneidas 250, Tuscaroras 140, Onondagas 150, Cayugas 200, Senecas 1,050, making in all 1,950 warriors. At the commencement of the revolutionary war it was on good authority stated that the number of warriors was 2,200, and the whole number about 12,000. It was estimated on good authority in 1783 that the British had in their services in the revolutionary war, 300 Mohawks, 150 Oneidas, 200 Tuscaroras, 300 Onondagas, 230 Cayugas, 400 Senecas, in all 1,580; by adding to these those who adhered to the United States the number of warriors would be increased to about 1800. The missionary Kirkland in 1783 estimated the whole number of warriors to be 1,900 of whom 600 were Senecas. In 1794, on a division of an annuity by the U. S., there were 628 Oneidas, 40 Cayugas, 450 Onondagas, 400 Tuscaroras, 1780 Senecas, in all 3,298; and there were in Canada 300 Mohawks, 460 Oneidas, in all 760, making a total of 4,058. A report made to the Legislature in 1819 stated the number of Indians in this state as 4,976.

The endurance and vitality of these Indians is so remarkable as to be almost marvelous. While the tribes of the east and of the south are, with rare exceptions, almost extinct, the six nations to the surprise and wonder of the investigator and the historian, number more to-day than they did a hundred years ago when Washington was compelled, by their fierce warfare, to order their extermination, and more than at any time within the early settlements of the whites. This was the judgment of Schoolcraft in 1845, and is the opinion of ex Gov. Seymour now, and it is also in accord with the belief of Col. Garrick Mallery, U. S. army, who has patiently and thoroughly investigated the Indian census for the whole period of our government. The Hon. Ellis H. Roberts, in his address at Newtown, said: "At least 13,668 members of the original six nations are accounted for at known points. This is more than the number officially reported by Sir William Johnson in 1763, thirteen years before our declaration of independence, and at least one thousand

greater than the census of the same tribes two hundred years ago."

In a letter to the writer, from ex-Gov. Horatio Seymour, Sept. 19, 1879, in response to an inquiry about the history of the Iroquois, he says: "Although they conquered so much of our continent and held so many in subjection they never numbered 15,000 of all sexes and ages. At the close of the Revolution by the best authorities they had not 10,000, as they had been wasted by the French and revolutionary wars. I think their numbers are now more than that and they are increasing. I once looked into this subject but I have lost my statistics. In this state there are 4,707, which is an increase of about 1,000 since 1845. Some of the Mohawks went to Canada during the French war, and the rest of the tribe moved into Upper Canada at the time of the Revolution. The Oneidas with a few exceptions went on to a reservation in Wisconsin about fifty years ago. They are increasing in numbers there as the Mohawks are in Canada. Some of the Senecas went to the far west many years ago, and many of the six nations are to be found in different parts of our country. There is no doubt that they are more numerous now than at the close of the revolution. I do not think this is true of any other Indian tribe."

ORTHOGRAPHY, ETC., OF KANADESAGA.

The writer has been often asked the right way to spell Kanadesaga, and if he was sure his orthography was right. Upon commencing these articles the impression was to use the word Canadasaga, which had been the customary way in Geneva. If the orthography of Canada was right, and it is so always spelled, it seemed natural that Canadasaga should be right. Upon a little investigation however, it was found that it was seldom so used, the word almost invariably being commenced with a K, and the various ways of spelling widely different. In Turner's history of Phelps and Gorham purchase, it was spelled Kanadesaga, and having other good authority, the writer finally concluded upon the same. Since then it has been so used by Norton in his history of the Sullivan campaign. Many scholars however, think Kanadaseaga is the proper way.

The original word in the Seneca dialect seems to have been Ga-nun-da-sa ga, which, according to Hon. Lewis H. Morgan, in his "League of the Iroquois," means "new settlement village," and Seneca lake was called Da-nun-da-sa-ga Te-car-ne-o-di or "a lake" by or near the "new settlement village." This however, was but a relative name, to distinguish it from the old village of Onahie, a few miles west; undoubtedly the most proper name was that given by Sir William Johnson, of Kanadasero, or Grand Village or Kanadaseago, which carries the same idea.

In 1687, when the Marquis de Nonville made an invasion, he destroyed the Seneca villages near Victor, which locality they then abandoned. The eastern large town of Gaensera after the De Nonville expedition, appears to have drifted eastwardly from point to point, and in a hundred years was found at Kanadaseaga: while the western large town during the same time, had drifted in the opposite direction and was found by Sullivan in 1779, west of the Genesee river near Cuylerville. In the meantime, great accessions were made to their numbers by their numerous conquests, which added many new villages within their territory, so that when invaded by De Nonville, there were but four villages, a hundred years later there was three times that number.

One of these intermediate positions of the *grand village* was in the town of Seneca, towards the southwest corner of lot 56, but it was not many years after, that the village was located about two miles farther east on what is known as the Collins, or Fort Hill farm, now owned by Dr. How. Here they remained for some time, and their village became known as Onahie or "Old Castle" or village, and appears on the Evans map of 1755, a short distance west of Canasadego; finally removing to Ga-nun da-sa-ga or new village, near Geneva. As before stated, this latter place was called by Sir Wm. Johnson, Kanadasero or Grand Village, not that the village differed from others, but from the fact that the grand representative of the nation lived there, it being the residence of the chief sachem of the Senecas, to whom was committed the charge of lighting the council fires. The name Gaensera of De Nonville and Kanadasera are identical, but of different dialects. Gandagaro is another variation, the garo and sera carrying the idea of *grand*.

Drake, in his "Book of the Indians," says "Most of Indian words for places, etc., are defined by a knowledge of their etymology. A knowledge of the Indian languages would enable us to know what almost every place in the country has been noted for, whether hill or mountain, brook or river."

Col. Stone says in "Life of Brant," Vol. I, p. 56, "It is one of the most difficult things in the world to arrive at anything like system or certainty in regard to Indian names of persons, places, or things * * * Indeed, it has been the practice of writers of different, and even the same nations, to spell more by the ear than by rule, until our Indian names have been involved in almost inextricable confusion."

In addition to this, it must be recollected

that each of the six nations had a different dialect, and that every tribe had peculiarities in their language different from the other tribes, although, perhaps, in no very great or marked degree. As a noted instance of this, Red Jacket had a number of different names, but the meaning of all in the dialect to which they belonged was "Keeper Awake" or according to Col. Stone, "He keeps them awake."

### THE PROPERTY LINE.

During the time of Sir William Johnson, there were settlements of white people in the Indian country, and as there had been some conflict and altercation with the Indians, he made a treaty with them in 1768, in which the "line of property" as it was called, was established, marking the boundary between the white settlements and the Indians. This treaty has been lost, although it was once in the possession of Gov. Clinton.

At the treaty made by the United States and the Six Nations in 1784*, the territorial limits of the Indians were defined, and they were allowed to possess, with a few exceptions, all the territory west of what was called "the property line."

An old map, No. 51, at Albany, made by John Cox, Nov. 1787, of the easternmost range of lots in the old township of Clinton, now part of the town of Bainbridge, in Chenango county, shows this "property line" to be the eastern boundary of said lots, and is laid down as running N. 4° 47' E., and the north end of the part there shown, is at the confluence of the Unadilla and Susquehana rivers.

The line commenced at the northeast corner of Pennsylvania, and run a little east of north to Lake Ontario, crossing the Mohawk west of the settlement at German Flats (Herkimer), at or near the division line between the counties of Herkimer and Oneida, and was distant about eighty miles west of, and run nearly parallel with the Hudson river.

### THE MILITARY TRACT.

In order to raise forces to recruit the army, the legislature of the State of New York passed a law in 1781, agreeing to give each soldier who enlisted and served for three years, or during the war, a bounty of 500 acres of land, as soon after the war as the land could be surveyed. By an act passed March 27th, 1783, the bounties of land were fixed as follows: Privates, 600 acres; Ensign, 900; Lieutenant, 1,200; Captain, 1,800; Major, 2,400; Lieut.-Colonel, 2,700; Colonel, 3,000; Brigadier General, 5,300; Major General, 6,600 acres. An act was passed July 25, 1782, setting apart lands for payment of military bounties, which was afterward amended in 1786-8-9 and 1791, these lands being located in the territory of the Onondaga and Cayuga Indians.

In 1786, the Indian title to the lands designated for soldiers bounties not having been extinguished, and the soldiers becoming impatient, the legislature appropriated twelve northern townships towards satisfying the claims of such as were anxious for locations. The land thus set apart is what is called The Old Military Tract, and is in what are now the counties of Clinton, Franklin and Essex. These towns were each ten miles square, making an area of 1,200 square miles or 768,000 acres.

Before many locations were made, the Indian title to the lands of the Onondagas and Cayugas was extinguished by treaty, and the legislature by act of Feb. 28, 1789, appropriated the lands for bounties to the revolutionary soldiers, providing also, that six lots in each town should be reserved, one for gospel and school purposes, one for promoting literature in the State, four for the surplus for commissioned officers in excess of the amount to each soldier, and also to exchange for lands drawn under water. The lands reserved for gospel and school purposes were finally, by authority of act of legislature, sold, and the proceeds invested, the interest being devoted to school purposes, and is yet so used in the towns of Seneca and other counties. The State of New York thus redeemed the pledge given to the revolutionary soldiers by the acts of her legislature.

The military tract was accordingly surveyed into 28 townships, each township embracing 100 lot of 600 acres, exclusive of reservations—an area of land equal to 1,680,000 acres, which tract was, on the 5th of March, 1794, erected into a separate county called Onondaga. This military tract, or old Onondaga county, has been subdivided into several counties, viz: Courtland, Tompkins, Cayuga and Seneca, and partly into Oswego and Wayne. The soldiers patents were soon bought up by speculators; the current price in 1788 for a soldier's right was $8, in 1792 the price had risen to $30, and in 1800 the land was worth from $3 to $5 per acre.

### FORTS STANWIX—SCHUYLER.

A great deal of confusion has existed as regards these forts, in relation to the events occurring during and immediately after the revolutionary war, many locating Fort Stanwix at Rome, and Fort Schuyler at Utica, when the fact seems to be that they were one and the same, and occupied a part of the present site of Rome, Oneida county.

Fort Stanwix was originally built in 1758,

* See speech of Corn Planter to Gen. Washington in 1790.

during the French war, by Gen. Stanwix, and was situated at the head of navigation of the Mohawk river, and at the carrying place between that river and Wood creek, from whence the boats passed to Oswego, and was a post of great importance to western New York.

It had been erected at an enormous expense and had been comparatively a formidable work, yet at the commencement of the revolutionary war, it was in ruins. In 1776 Congress directed the fort to be repaired and strengthened, and Col. Dayton was detached for that purpose. He appears to have made but little progress in rebuilding the fort, as Col. Gansevoort had the works in charge early in the following year, and they were far from complete when subsequently invested in August, 1777, by the motley forces of Gen. St. Leger. Col. Dayton had thought proper to change its name in honor of the general commanding the northern department, and it was subsequently known as Fort Schuyler during the remainder of the war.

There was another Fort Schuyler, built on the present site of Utica, during the old French war, and named in honor of Col. Schuyler, an uncle of Gen. Philip Schuyler of the revolution. The two are often confounded in history, and the change in the name of Fort Stanwix was alike unnecessary and unwise. At the time of the revolution, there was no fort at Utica. There was a cleared field which still retained the name of Fort Schuyler, as did the settlement west, that of Fort Stanwix.

The works of Fort Schuyler (Stanwix) having become much out of repair, were destroyed by a flood of water and by fire in May, 1781, the post was abandoned, the garrison falling back to Fort Herkimer. After the war was over, the fort was rebuilt and the ancient name of Fort Stanwix restored, and during the administration of the elder Adams, it was repaired and essentially strengthened as being an important post.

Note. See Life of Brant, Vol. 1, p. 168 9. Vol. 2, p. 148-150. Annals of Tryon county, p. 69-70.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### MATTERS IN RELATION TO THE EARLY SETTLEMENT OF GENEVA AND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

In the year 1798, a pamphlet, containing 5 letters from a gentleman to his friend, was written and published by Capt. Charles Williamson. In the year 1799, this pamphlet was republished with three additional letters, and is to be found in Documentary History of N. Y., vol. II, p. 1125.

The first letter contains a long extract from a letter written by Williamson in 1792, to Mr. Colquhoun, and from which extracts are given below, the other extracts being taken from the letters indicated by the numerals prefacing them.

I. "On the 15th of February, 1792, I left Albany, on my route to the Genesee river; * * * The road as far as Whitestown, had been made passable for wagons, but from that to the Genesee river, it was little better than an Indian path, just sufficiently opened to allow a sled to pass, and the most impassable streams bridged. At Whitestown, I was obliged to change my sled; the Albany driver would proceed no farther. * * * After leaving Whitestown we found only a few straggling huts scattered along the path at the distance of from ten to twenty miles, and they affording nothing but the convenience of fire and a kind of shelter from the snow. On the evening of the third day's journey from Whitestown, we were very agreeably surprised to find ourselves on the east side of the Seneca Lake, which we found perfectly open and free from ice, as in the month of June; the evening was pleasant and agreeable, and what added most to our surprise and admiration was to see a boat and canoe plying on the lake. This after having passed from New York over 360 miles of country completely frozen, was a sight pleasing and interesting."

"We then crossed the outlet of the lake, and arrived at the settlement of Geneva, consisting of a few families. * * * From Geneva to Canadarqua, the road is only the Indian path a little improved, the first five miles. * * * On this road there were only two families settled. Canadarqua, the county town, consisted only of two small frame houses and a few huts. * * * From Canadarqua to the Genesee river, 26 miles, it is almost totally uninhabited, only four families residing on the road."

II. "In this year (1796) the town of Geneva received a great addition by the laying out of a street on the summit of a rising ground, along the west bank of the lake. At the south termination of the street, a handsome country house was begun, and finished the year following; and in the corner of the square, a large and convenient house, for a tavern and hotel, besides many other large and well finished houses.* About this time

* Mr. Cleveland states in his history of Yates county (p. 175), that Thomas and James Barden having leased a saw mill just erected by Dr. Benton in Bellona, on Keshong creek, together with 200 acres of timber, for the term of twenty years, "contracted with said Benton to furnish Chas. Williamson 100 lumber for the hotel and other buildings in Geneva, which lumber was shipped from the mouth of Keshong

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a sloop of forty tons burden, was put on the stocks, intended, when finished, to run as a packet, between Geneva and Catherines Town, (Havanna) a small village at the head of the lake. * * * Towards the close of the season, almost all the buildings were finished, and the sloop was launched. This circumstance of the sloop * * * was of sufficient importance to assemble several thousand people, and no circumstance having occurred to draw together the different settlements, the people comprising them were not a little surprised to find themselves in a country containing so many inhabitants, and these so respectable. Natives of every State in the Union, and of every nation of Europe, were to be found in the assemblage. * * *"

"This season a printing office was established in Geneva, and a weekly gazette published, supported by 800 subscribers, who, before six months, increased to 1,000. Of the settlements begun this season, one was 16 miles south from Geneva, on the outlet of the Crooked Lake, which here empties into the Seneca; a village called Hopeton, was laid out * * * at the same time a set of merchant mills were begun on the outlet, about half a mile from the village. * * * These mills are intended as a depository for all grain taken in this part of the country, in payment for lands sold. * * * One floor of the mills will be solely appropriated for the use of the merchants residing in the adjacent country, who may sell their merchandise for wheat delivered at the mills. * * On the north side of Geneva, about the same distance as Hopeton, a set of mills on a similar plan, were built this season. These last are situated on a very important navigation, the outlet of the Canadrigua Lake, near its junction with Mud creek, * * * On the bank of Mud creek, near the junction of the two streams, is laid out the village of Lyons, so called from the similarity of its situation to the city of that name in France. * * * It is now almost one continuous village from Geneva to Lyons, 16 miles."

III. "The emigration that took place in the year 1797 * * * not only exceeded former years as to numbers, but also as to the respectability of the emigrants; * * * regular weekly markets had been established in Geneva, Canadrigua and Bath, and were well supplied with meat of all kinds. The flour from our mills was inferior to none on the continent, and the merchants' stores were regularly supplied. The United States had established a weekly post for the carriage of letters, * * * the legislature of the State had, by an act passed in the session of 1797, taken the road from Fort Schuyler to Geneva under their patronage. A lottery had been granted for the opening and improving certain great roads; among these, this road was included. The inhabitants of the country through which this road passed, made a voluntary offer of their services, to aid the State commissioner, and subscribed 4,000 days work, which they performed with fidelity and cheerfulness. * * * the State commissioner was enabled to complete this road of near 100 miles, opening it 64 feet wide, and paving with logs and gravel, the moist parts of the low country through which it was carried. Hence the road * * * from being in the month of June, 1797, little better than an Indian path, was so far improved, that a stage started from Fort Schuyler on the 30th of September, and arrived at the hotel in Geneva, in the afternoon of the third day, with four passengers. * * * All last winter (1797 8) two stages, one of them a mail stage, ran from Geneva and Canadaigua, weekly."

"Very few places of the size now excel Geneva, either as to the stile of the buildings, the beauty of the adjoining country, or valuable improvements. * * * The number of sail boats have greatly increased on the lake, and the sloop finds constant employment; and in addition to their comforts, a person from Scotland, has established at Geneva, a very respectable brewery, which promises to destroy in the neighborhood, the baneful use of spirituous liquors. The apple and peach orchards left by the Indians, yield every year abundance of fruit, besides making considerable cider: so much so that one farmer near Geneva sold cider, this year to the amount of $1,200 * * * † Water, in the town of Geneva, is brought in pipes, from a remarkable spring, at the distance of a mile and a half, so that each house is plentifully supplied at the door. * * * In one orchard, at an old Indian town near Geneva, the occupier of the farm sold last year to a neighboring distillery, 100 bushels of peaches."

The following are briefly condensed from the sources indicated, the reference abbreviations being as follows: H. P., Turner's history of the Holland purchase. P. & G., Turner's history of the Phelps and Gorham pur-

ong creek. They receive one cent per foot, running measure, for all sizes and widths, the whole amounting to $1100, which was promptly paid by Mr. Williamson in silver coin.

† The Geneva Water Works Company was finally incorporated by Chapter 63, passed March 31, 1813.

In "Men and Times of the Revolution," Elkanah Watson speaks of visiting Bethlehem, Pa., in 1777, and says "The village was supplied with water forced up the hill, in logs, from the river, by means of machinery."

chase. Doc. His, Documentary History of New York. O. R., O'Reilly's history of Rochester and Western N. Y. Hist. Yates Co., S. C. Cleveland's History of Yates Co.

"At the close of the revolution in 1783, settlements had not advanced beyond the lower valley of the Mohawk. In May 1784, Hugh White with his family advanced beyond the bounds of civilization, located at what is now Whitestown, (Whitesboro) near Utica. In 1786 a considerable settlement had been made there. In the same year that Whitestown was settled, James Dean, an Indian agent, settled upon a tract of land given him by the Indians, near Rome. * * In 1786 a Mr. Webster became the first white settler of the territory now comprised in the county of Onondaga. In 1788 Asa Danforth and Comfort Tyler located at Onondaga Hollow. 1793 John L. Hardenbergh settled at what was for many years called Hardenbergh's Corners, now Auburn. In 1789 James Bennet and John Harris settled upon opposite sides of Cayuga Lake, and established a ferry." H. P. p. 309.

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Jemima Wilkinson's colony, or the Friends settlement. In the year 1786, Ezekiel Sherman came out to Kanadesaga, and after spending some time with two Indian traders, he returned and reported against emigrating to the Genesee country on account of the hostile Indians. A meeting of the principal members was, however, held the same year in Connecticut, and a committee of three was appointed to make further exploration, who set out in 1787, and arriving at Cashong, they found Dominique De Bartsch and Joseph Pondre, two French Indian traders, who highly commended the country to them, and after satisfying themselves, they returned and gave an account of their journey.

As the result, a party of 25 emigrated in the spring of 1788, in the month of June, embarking at Schenectady on bateaux and working their way to Seneca Lake. At Kanadesaga (Geneva) they found but a solitary log house, and that not finished, inhabited by Elark Jennings. In August they arrived at their destination, locating near the outlet of Crooked or Keuka Lake.

The spring of 1789 brought large accessions of the society, and that year a small crop of wheat and some corn was harvested, 40 acres of wheat was sown, and a grist mill erected, which was not however, in operation until January 1790.

Jemima Wilkinson left Pennsylvania in March, 1790, accompanied by a number of her followers, and in due time arrived at the settlement. Hist. Yates Co., also P. & G.

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Oliver Phelps arrived at Kanadesaga, (Geneva) June 1st, 1788. On the 4th of June, he writes to Samuel Fowler, one of his associates, "I am well pleased with what I have seen of the country. This place is situated at the foot of Seneca Lake, on a beautiful hill which overlooks the country around it, and gives a fine prospect of the whole lake, which is about forty miles in length. Here we propose to build *the* city as there is a water carriage from this to Schenectady." P. & G., p. 138.

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Horatio Jones was born in Dec. 1763. In 1781 he was made a prisoner by the Indians, was adopted and soon gained their confidence and esteem. At the close of the war he was liberated, and having become familiar with the Indian language, he was often employed as an interpreter. "When his brother, John H. Jones came to Seneca Lake (Geneva) in Oct. 1788, he found him there surrounded with quite a little settlement; every house was covered with barks, no boards or shingles to be had. His son William W. Jones was born at Geneva, in Dec. 1786, and was the first white male child born west of Utica." H. P. p. 286.

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Major Benjamin Barton came to Geneva in 1788, and a few years afterwards purchased from Joseph Pendre, (who had married the daughter of a Cayuga Indian, and to whom the Indians had given the land) a valuable farm on Cashong creek, seven miles south of Geneva. This farm was formerly the site of an Indian town which had been destroyed by the army of Gen. Sullivan, Sept. 8, 1779. More than 100 acres of it had been under cultivation for so long a time, that the stumps had all rotted away; there were a great many old apple trees upon it which had not been destroyed by the army, some of them more than a foot and a half in diameter, and some remained for fifty years after the first settlement of the country. In 1792 he was married at Canandaigua, and soon after settled in Geneva, where his first child, a daughter, was born. In 1794 he removed to his farm, where he resided until the spring of 1807, when he removed to Lewiston, N. Y. He was a surveyor and was long employed in the survey of the military tract. From 1802 to 1806 he was sheriff of Ontario Co. H. P. p. 392. P & G., also Yates Co., p. 172.

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"In the fall of 1788, Geneva had become a pretty brisk place; the focus of speculators-explorers, the Lessee company and their agents, and the principal seat of the Indian trade for a wide region. Horatio Jones was living in a log house covered with bark, on the bank of the lake, and had a small stock of goods for the Indian trade; Asa Ransom

occupied a hut and was manufacturing Indian trinkets; Elark Jennings had a log tavern on the bank of the lake; the Lessee company had a framed tavern and trading esta lishment, covered with bark, on the lake shore near where the bluff approaches the lake, which was occupied by Dr. Benton. There was a cluster of log houses all along the low ground near the lake shore. The geographical designations were "hill and bottom." Peter Ryckman and Peter Bortle were residing there, and several others whose names are not recollected. Col. Seth Reed was residing at the Old Castle. Dominique De Bartsch, an Indian trader from Montreal was the great man of the country. His principal seat was the Cashong farm." P. & G., p. 320.

NOTE—Mons. De Bartzch and Joseph Poudre resided together, but the title of the Cashong farm was in Joseph Poudre. See treaty with Cayugas, return of survey and copy of patent, colonial MSS. in Secretary Sate's office.

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Judge Augustus Porter left Schenectady in May, 1789, for the Genesee country; he says, "Geneva was at that time the most important western settlement, and consisted of some six or seven families, among whom was Col. Reed, Roger Noble, Asa Ransom, who had a small shop, and was engaged in making Indian trinkets." H. P. p. 362.

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The following extract is from an article published in 1792. "It (Geneva) consists of about twenty log houses, three or four frame buildings, and as many idle persons as can live in them. Eighteen miles lower on the same side of this lake, stands the Friend's settlement, founded by Jemima Wilkinson; there are eighty families in it, each has a fine farm, and are quiet, moral and industrious people. Doc. His. Vol. II, p. 1106.

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Joshua Fairbanks came to Geneva in 1793. He says: "The inhabitants that he recollects at Geneva, at that period, were Ezra Patterson, Thomas Sisson, the Reed family, Peter Bortle, Talmage, Van Dusen, Benj. Barton, Butler, Jackson, Dr. Adams, Dr. Coventry, lived over the lake. H. P. 319.

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"Although the county of Ontario, embracing all of the Genesee country, was set off from Montgomery, * * * in 1789-90, no organization of the courts was held until 1793. In June of that year, a court of Oyer & Terminer was held at Patterson's tavern in Geneva. The presiding judge was John Sloss Hobart, one of the three Supreme Court judges appointed after the organization of the judiciary in 1777." P. & G. 170.

"All that was done at Geneva previous to the spring of 1793, was under the auspices of Reed and Ryckman and the Lessees," P. & G. 232.

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The records of the town of Seneca are complete from 1793 to the present time, and are valuable reference to the historian, and the curious will find many interesting items therein. At the time of the division of the town, they were placed in the custody of the Town Clerk of Geneva. From the record book we find that the first town meeting was held at the house of Joshua Fairbanks, in April, 1783, and that Ezra Patterson was chosen supervisor, Thomas Sisson, town clerk, and numerous other persons to fill the different offices. In 1794, town meeting was held at the house of Elark Jennings, and Ambrose Hull was elected supervisor, and Thomas Sisson, town clerk. In 1795 it was held at Ezra Patterson's. Ambrose Hull, elected supervisor; Timothy Allyn, town clerk. In 1796, at Benj. Tuttle's, Timothy Allyn, supervisor, Samuel Colt, town clerk. In 1797 and until after 1814, town meetings were held at the hotel. Ezra Patterson was elected supervisor 5 times, Samuel Colt once, Samuel Whedon, Jr., once, and Septimus Evans ten times in succession, commencing in 1805. The town clerks were, Samuel Colt twice, John Heslop twice, William Tappan five times, David Cook twice, William Tippetts from 1811 to 1818.

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A French gentleman named Maude in his travels through western New York in 1800, wrote of Geneva as follows: "It is divided into Upper and Lower town. The first establishments were on the margin of the lake, as best adapted to business, but Capt. Williamson, struck with the peculiar beauty of the elevated plain which crowns the high bank of the lake, and the many advantages which it possessed as a site for a town, began here to lay out his building lots, parallel with and facing the lake. These lots were three-quarters of an acre deep, and half an acre in front, and valued (in 1800) at $375 per lot. One article in the agreement with Capt. Williamson is, that no buildings shall be erected on the east side of the street, that the view of the lake may be kept open. Those who purchase a lot have also the option of purchasing such land as lays between their lot and the lake—a convenience and advantage which I suppose few will forego—the quantity not being great, and consisting principally of the declivity of the bank, which for the most part, is not so steep as to unfit it for pasturage or gardens."

"To give encouragement to the settlement, Capt. Williamson built a very large and hand-

some hotel, and invited an Englishman of the name of Powell to take the superintendence of it. Capt. Williamson has two rooms in this hotel appropriated to himself; and as he resides here the greater part of the year, he takes care that Powell does justice to the establishment and his guests. From this cause it is, that, as it respects provisions, liquors, beds, and stabling, there are few inns in America equal to the hotel at Geneva. That part of the town where the hotel is situated is intended for a public square. At Mile Point, a mile south of the hotel, Capt. Williamson has built a handsome brick house* intended for the residence of his brother, who had an intention of establishing at Geneva."

"In 1792, Geneva did not contain more than three or four families; but such is the beauty, salubrity, and convenience of the situation, that it now consists of at least sixty families, and is rapidly receiving accessions as the new buildings get finished for their reception. There were at this time (1800) settled at Geneva, Mr. and Mrs. Gott, Messrs. Johnstone, Hallett, Rees, Bogert, and Beekman; three of these gentlemen were lawyers. Here were also two doctors, two storekeepers, a blacksmith, shoemaker, tailor, hatter, hairdresser, saddler, brewer, printer, watchmaker and cabinet-maker. A hat made entirely of beaver is sold here for $10."

"Geneva is supplied with water conveyed in pipes from a neighboring spring, and also by wells. From the lake, the town is plentifully supplied with a great variety of excellent fish. Seneca Lake is forty-four miles long, and from four to six miles wide. Its greatest depth is not known; the water is very clear and and wholesome; the bottom is sand and gravel, with a clear sandy beach, like the sea-shore, and, consequently, not infested with musketoes, etc. This lake is navigated by a sloop of forty tons, which runs as a packet, and carries on a trade between Geneva and Catharinetown, at the head of the lake." O. R, p. 153.

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The following extract is from a pamphlet published in 1804:

"Geneva contains about 70 dwelling houses * * * It has a large and elegant hotel, kept in the best manner, two school houses, one of which is occasionally used for public worship by a Presbyterian minister, several well supplied stores, 3 considerable distilleries, a brewery, and a market for butcher meat, of which 1,500 pounds is killed weekly." Doc. Hist. Vol. II, p. 1183.

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From information furnished by Col. James H. Bogert for Mrs. Bradford's history of Geneva, published in the directory in 1862, the following is extracted. In 1805 Geneva had but 68 houses; 35 on Main street, 7 on Seneca St., 5 on Castle St., 2 on Genesee St., 1 on Pulteney St. In 1806 there were added 5 to 7 buildings, making at most 75. At this time and for long afterwards, the north side of Seneca street was a mowing field. In 1806 there were 325 inhabitants; in 1833 there were 3,029. In 1806 there was one church; in 1833 there were 7. In 1806 there were about 4,000 bushels of wheat sold at about 65 cts. per bushel, bringing about $2,600, and but little other produce. In 1833 there were sold, principally for other markets, 184,000 bushels of wheat, 17,000 bushels of barley, 52,000 pounds of wool, 14,000 gallons of whisky, 15,000 pounds dried peaches, and large quantities of pearl and pot ashes, pork, beef, butter, flour, grass-seed, lumber, glass, etc., valued at $300,000. Col. Bogert came to Geneva in 1806, and Nov. 1st of that year, he issued the first number of the *Expositor* newspaper, the title of which was changed to the *Gazette* in in 1809, and continued its publication 27 years, retiring in 1833.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### THE INDIANS OF THE WHITE SPRING FARM

About two miles south of the Old Castle, Kanadesaga, on the east side of the old preemption road, is the farm formerly occupied by Judge John Nicholas, and familiarly known as the White Spring farm, the name being derived from the fount which supplies the village of Geneva with pure and wholesome water. This farm was purchased by the Hon. Gideon Lee, from Robert C Nicholas, by deed dated March 30, 1839, and recorded in the county clerk's office January 29, 1840. Mr. Lee lived but a short time after moving on the farm, his death occurring August 12, 1841. Previous to his decease, he commenced very extensive alterations, repairs and improvements on the farm, which were carried out and completed by his family, who continued to own and occupy the place for many years after his death, and until it was sold to James O. Sheldon, Esq. The farm is now owned by William and Thomas Smith.

Among other improvements, there was some grading done in the lane, and also in the lawn in front of the mansion house, which was

* This house stood at the intersection of the roads near Mile Point, and was intended to be approached through an avenue of poplar trees, planted each side of the whole length of Main street, and widening as it approached the house. It was for many years unoccupied and obtained the reputation of being "haunted," and long stood as a terror to the lower classes of people. No trace of the "haunted house" now remains.

finished in the spring of 1842, the lawn also being enclosed with a handsome picket fence. The improvements were carried on as speedily as possible in order to be completed before the family made a trip to Europe, which they did in the summer of 1842, they returning the next year, their arrival in Geneva being noted as an excessively hot day, so much so, that the masons at work on Trinity church were obliged to suspend work on account of the heat.

There was in the lane a small rise of ground, only a gentle swell, which was opposite the old carriage house, (another building being there now) and near a tulip tree, which is yet standing. This was graded off, the greatest depth of excavation not exceeding three feet at any point; this grading was on the site of an old Indian burial ground, and many skeletons were exhumed. A short distance south of this in the lawn, and west of and in front of the mansion, and from one-fourth or one-third of the distance from the road to the house, was a knoll about four feet high, which was also graded off, the earth in both instances being used in filling up the low spots immediately around the work, and in levelling off and bringing to a proper grade the premises immediately surrounding. This latter grading also resulted in exhuming many Indian skeletons, and as the bottom was not reached, no doubt many remains of like character are still there. There are now in the lawn, swells and rises of ground, and appearance of tumuli, which strongly indicate other burial places.

From a investigation made during the past few months, in which many of our citizens who were conversant with the work at the time have been interviewed, and a careful inquiry also made of many who were at work on the premises and on the grading at the time, some interesting facts have been obtained.

Large quantities of Indian bones and skulls were taken out, many of which were in a good state of preservation. Most of them appeared to have been of adults and of a good sized race, and in one or two instances were of extraordinary size indicating a very tall person. The quantity of bones found is estimated at four or five wagon loads, and may possibly have been more. The burials seem to have been done with some degree of order and regularity, and the bodies evidently had been interred in a sitting posture, and earth appeared to have been carried or brought to cover over the remains, which was indicated by the fact of its being a sandy loam, while that in the premises immediately adjoining the grading was of a different character, being a gravelly clay. A person who worked there at the time and gives a very intelligent and interesting account of the exhumations, and who was conversant with disinterments from other places, was, and is yet, strongly of the opinion, that some of the burials had not been made more than sixty or seventy years previous to the time of the grading. The bones and skulls were deposited in low places and covered over with earth in the grading that was done at the time.

From the large quantities of remains found, there was much talk at the time that many of the burials were the result of a fatal plague of the small pox, and which caused the removal of the settlement from this place to the Old Castle. A tradition has come down that the Indians being infected with the Small Pox, and feeling languid and uncomfortable, but not knowing what was the matter, concluded to go and bathe in the lake, and having done so, the result proved very fatal. From the beauty and salubrity of the situation, and the abundance of pure water, it must have been a good location for an Indian village, and from the large number of burials, it is evident that it must have been a large settlement, and one that was occupied for a long time. As it is not known that history makes mention of any war to cause an abandonment of the site, there seems to be a probability of truth in the tradition that it was abandoned in consequence of a Small Pox plague. This talk of the Small Pox was so current at the time, that some of the workmen were shy and careful in handling the bones for fear of being infected with the disease.

There were many copper and brass kettles found, most of them from rust and decay being thin and full of holes were worthless for use, the brass ones particularly so. A few of them, however, were found to be yet good, and being cleaned and scoured up, were in use by several persons for many years. These kettles were of various sizes, from two up to eight quarts, and possibly some larger. Many of them contained what indicated had once been red paint; others had evidently had provisions in them, in some instances the shape and form of grains of corn being plainly discernable. One person who was a boy at the time, says that these kettles were so many, and considered of so little value, that he was permitted to take quantities of them away, and that he sold several wheel barrows full, probably more than a hundred pounds, for old copper, to William G. Monell, who had a brass foundry on Exchange (Water) street, about where Mr. Fox's saloon now is

A large number of arrows heads were also found, both of flint and of copper, the latter being of a triangular shape, about two inches

in length and three-fourths of an inch across the base, and which created some curiosity as to the manner of fastening to the shaft, until one was found with the wood nearly all decayed, yet there was enough left to show that it had been inserted into an opening at the end of the arrow shaft, and fastened by a piece of sinew of a deer running through the holes and around the stick.

A careful inquiry has been made as to the number of guns and crosses found, and from the information obtained it is estimated that there were about two dozen muskets, all of which were badly rusted and decayed. Of the crosses, nearly two dozen were known to have been found by the workmen, and undoubtedly many more by visitors, who were numerous and who were assiduous in searching for curiosities. One of these crosses, an iron pipe, a couple of finger rings, and a few other relics, have come into the possession of Mr. Fred. Furniss, Esq., for the Waterloo Library and Historical Society. This cross appears to be a casting of brass, and is two inches long, the cross bar one and one-fourth inch long, both being one-fourth inch wide. On one side is represented the Savior on the cross, with a skull and cross bones under his feet, and above the halo over his head the letters INRI; on the reverse is the virgin Mary being crowned by two angels, and overshadowed with the emblems of the Holy Ghost. The iron pipe is tubular in shape, narrowing towards the bottom on which there is a screw with which it was once attached to a tomahawk. The finger ring are of copper. Many of the crosses found were rather smaller in size than the foregoing, and some of them were of different letterings, but with such as is customary in such cases. They were all of brass.

There were also many trinkets and earrings found, many of them having religious devices; some of the ear-rings were of a flat piece of copper or brass, of oval shape, while others were round, and nearly, if not all of these had representations or letterings of a religious character. A couple of ear-rings, similar to the above, are now lying before the writer, one of them being about one and one-fourth inches long, and three-fourths of an inch wide, oval in shape, and appears to be a casting of brass; on the one side is the figure of a man standing with a young lad at his side, and inscribed IESV CVM IOSEPH, and on the reverse, the figures of two women, both seated, the one holding a child on her lap, and overhead the letters S·ANNA·M· M· VIR·, at the bottom, under a horizontal line drawn under the figures, are the letters ROMA. The other ear-ring is much smaller, but so badly decayed that the devices and letterings are illegible. These ear rings, as they have been called, may possibly not have been used as such, but may have been worn as medals.

There were large quantities of beads and various kinds of trinkets, some of which were said to be of "blood stone," but the trinkets were made of the red pipe stone, and the beads were a close imitation of that stone, but made of glass. The red pipe stone was the royal stone of the aborigines, or at least of the royal color, and from which their calumets or pipes of peace were made. The only quarry in the country is in Dakota Territory, and although the stone was an article of commerce with and among the Indians, it is only since the westward tide of emigration has opened up the country, that the quarry has been accessible to the whites.

Many tomahawks and a large number of iron axes were also found, the latter differing from the tomahawk, being larger in size, weighing about three pounds, and were evidently for chopping and cutting wood; they were axe-shaped, and with the eye or hole for the handle at the head of the axe. A few stone axes were also found, which attracted much curiosity on account of not having any eye or hole for a handle, but were grooved or hollowed out around near the head. A few other stone implements were found, but not in an quantity nor of much importance.

There were a large quantity of pipes and of many kinds and devices, and made of black, grey, brown and red stone, and of pottery. One of the pipes was a curiosity; it was made of lead, and at the bowl there was a panther, one end being attached to the stem, and the other to the top of the bowl of the pipe, and in such a manner that the panther's head was somewhat above the bowl and with his face looking down into it; the handle of this pipe was cut off in digging, but about a foot of it remained attached to the pipe, and it was in good condition and occasionally used by the possessor for many years, but it is not now known whether it is in existence or not.

Many more interesting things might be said in relation to the exhumations that were made and the traditions that have been related in relation to the Indians of the White Spring farm, but the writer has sifted all the information he has received and confined himself to all the facts that have been ascertained. As has before been said, the tradition is, that this was the original location of the Senecas in this neighborhood, and although this was not wholly so, yet it may have been a branch or a part and portion of the settlement. Kanadesaga was an important and prominent settlement, and the cornfields to the north of the Old Castle being

located in an opening of 300 or 400 acres in extent, were sufficiently large for a very large settlement. Diligent inquiry and search has been made in relation to the burial place of the Indians, but with the exception of the mound at the Old Castle, which is not sufficiently large to contain all the burials, no other general burial place can be found. It is true, however, that occasional skeletons have been exhumed in the adjoining fields to the Old Castle, and especially between that place and the White Spring Farm, and this, with other indications, point to the conclusion that there were habitations and huts between the two places. From all the facts stated the conclusion would seem to be that the White Springs Farm had at one time been a part of the original settlement of Kanedasaga, and that it was the main burial place of the settlement.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### THE GREAT COUNCIL TREE OF THE SENECAS.

On the Old Castle farm of Jerome Loomis, now owned and occupied by his children, is a large elm tree, known as the Great Council Tree of the Senecas. This elm is in fact a double tree, the two bodies branching just above the ground. Its measurement August 21st, 1879, was as follows: Trunk, just above the ground, but near the crown of the roots, 25 feet; two feet above the last measurement, or about three feet from the ground, 21 feet 2 inches; trunk of west branch, 13 feet 6 inches; east branch, 15 feet 2 inches; the last two measurements being five feet from the ground. Spread of the whole tree 120 feet.

This noble elm is situated just east of the ridge on the farm on the east side of the old Pre-emption road, nearly half a mile distant, and a little east of north from the Old Castle, and was situated in the midst of the cornfields of the Seneca Indians at Kanadesaga. A little to the north of the tree was a large peach orchard, which was destroyed by Sullivan's army, September 8th, 1779. This peach orchard in a few years was again in a flourishing condition, and in 1797 one hundred bushels of peaches were sold from it to a neighboring distillery. The same year a farmer on one of the Old Castle farms sold cider to the amount of one thousand two hundred dollars, which was made from apples grown in the old Indian orchard, the trees of which had likewise been girdled by Sullivan's army, but had sprouted from the roots and were again in full bearing.

The large apple orchards were around and near the Old Castle, which was on the Cuttendon farm, and also on the farm opposite the Old Castle on the east side of the old pre-emption road, then in the possession of Major Sanford Williams, but afterwards owned by Mr. Swales. Crittendon and Williams each had a cider mill and were at that time quite extensively engaged in the manufacture of cider, which found a ready market, as there were none but Indian apple trees in existence, and of them but few scattering trees, except what were on their farms.

Trees of wild plums, black mulberries, butternuts, walnuts and hickory nuts were in abundance in the immediate neighborhood.

Under the eastern edge of the tree is a large stone deeply imbedded in the ground, about four feet long and twenty inches wide. This stone had a hollow scooped out towards one end, and was used by the Indians for pounding corn in, and is in the same place where it was used and left by them.

An Indian orator once said. "We shall not long occupy much room in living; we shall occupy still less when we are gone; a single tree of the thousands which sheltered our fore-fathers, one old elm under which the tribes used to meet, will cover us all; but we would have our bones twined in death among its roots on the very soil where it grew. Perhaps it will last the longer from being fertilized with their decay."

## CHAPTER XIX.

### BY C. M. HUBBARD.

KANADASEAGA, or KANADASERA (of Sir William Johnson.) THE GRAND VILLAGE OF THE SENECAS.

[In the spring of 1879 the Waterloo Library and Historical Society organized an expedition under the direction of Gen. John S. Clark, of Auburn, N. Y., for the purpose of tracing the route of General Sullivan's Army through Seneca county in 1779 and to determine the location of the Indian settlements in this vicinity destroyed by Sullivan's expedition into the country of the Iroquois. On the 21st of July, General Clark, Col. H. F. Gaskin, C. M. Hubbard and Francis Bacon, members of the historical Society's expedition, reached Geneva, and in company with Col Calvin Walker, S. H. Parker, Erastus J. Rogers, Henry H. Loomis and Geo. S. Conover, visited the site of the ancient Indian town of Kanadasaga. The facts gathered by their investigations at this point were embodied by C. M. Hubbard in his account of the results of the expedition, and the following is taken from his forthcoming pamphlet entitled "Tracing Indian History."—(G. S. C.)

KANADASEAGA, the capital of the Seneca nation, was located about a mile and a half north-west of the present village of Geneva, on the old Crittenden farm, to the west of the old pre-emption line and south of the middle road to Canandaigua, the latter being a continuation of what is known as North street in Geneva. The land on which the village was built is now owned by the nursery firm of Wm. & Thos. Smith. The town was divided by Kanadaseaga creek, now known as

Castle brook, and nearly every trace of it has been obliterated by advancing civilization. The road-bed of the Geneva & Southwestern railway has been graded through one corner of it and the whole site of the town has long been under cultivation.

Here was not only the capital of the Senecas but one of the most thriving and important of the Iroquois villages. It contained as a town proper, some forty houses, but counting the number scattered in the adjacent fields the number was increased to about eighty. The village was laid out in a circular form, enclosing a large green plot, and was built with some regard for regularity and compactness. The buildings were made of bark and hewn logs—the former predominating—and many of them were of the rudest style of Indian architecture, indicating the great age of the town. That it was a prosperous and flourishing settlement is the testimony of every writer who has visited it, and the large number of acres under cultivation is ample evidence of the fact. The corn-fields were extensive and were located to the north and the east of the village on the Warner, Ringer, Williams, Loomis, Bennett and Mullender farms, which have commonly been designed as "Old Castle" farms from this fact. Several kinds of fruit trees grew in considerable numbers in the fields surrounding the town—apples, peaches, plums and mulberries being plentiful. The trees were girdled by Sullivan's army when it arrived at this point, but shoots grew up from their roots, and some of them are still pointed out at different places. On the farm of Jerome Loomis, to the north of this place, and on the east side of the pre-emption road, was a large peach orchard.

Near the centre of the town stood the council house of the Senecas. In ancient times all important towns were enclosed by lines of palisades, and generally called castles, a name afterward applied to all important towns whether palisaded or not, and from this fact Kanadaseaga has often been called "Old Castle." In 1756 Sir William Johnson erected block-houses here and a palisade enclosure, for the protection of its inhabitants while the warriors were engaged in the war at that time against the French. The general directions given by Sir William Johnson for building the forts in the Seneca's and the other Indian country is found in Doc. Hist. II p. 726, and is as follows:

100ft. square the Stockad' P. or Ok 15ft. long 3 of wch at least to be sunk in the ground well pounded & rammed & y^e 2 touching sides square so as to lay close. Loop holes to be made 4 f' dist.; 2 Bl. H^s. 20ft. sq. below & above to project 1½ foot over y^e Beams well roo'd & shingled & a good Sentry Box on the top of each, a good Gate of 3 In^s oak Pl. & iron hinges & a small Gate of Oak Plank of same thick'.

As late as 1847, Hon. Lewis H. Morgan secured a piece of one of the oak palisades used in the work, and it is now in the State cabinet at Albany.

Here in this prosperous capital village, many prominent and important events transpired, and the history of the sachems and warriors who gathered there in council, and of the festivals and sacrifices, fully written out, would make an interesting volume. In the early part of each winter the Senecas assembled at the castle to hold a general council and to celebrate their successes of the past year. At this time the new year's jubilee was held and the sacrifice of the white dog occurred. There were six annual festivals held at the old castle, the first being at the time when sap began to flow, and subsequent ones at the different seasons. Around the council-fire at the capitol gathered not only the Seneca warriors, but oftentimes the sachems and distinguished chiefs of other tribes in the league.

Near the outlet of the lake lived the chief sachem of the Senecas, called by some the "King of Kanadaseaga!" There has been no little confusion among writers of Indian biography to trace the identity of "Old King" and General Clark, after a very thorough research, concludes that SIANGOROCHTI, or OLD KING, GUYANGUAHTA, or more commonly known as GRAHTA, and OLD SMOKE, were all applied to the same person. The name of "Old Smoke" was conferred upon him by the English, (the idea of Smoke being contained in one of his names) from the fact that he carried the brand to light the council-fire—a right or honor held by no other person. He was a large, portly man, of commanding presence, and the most influential man in his day among the Senecas, and at the commencement of the revolutionary war, was opposed to the Indians taking any part in it. He was one of the most distinguished sachems of the Six Nations, always a firm friend where he pledged fidelity, possessing a warm and generous heart, brave, sagacious, and as sympathetic as a woman. He was the "[uncle] of YOUNG KING, a chief of the Senecas, and "one of whom the people were very proud on account of his bravery in war, his wisdom in council, and his mild, pacific character in social life."

Butler, the leader of the Tories and the alley of Brant, lived for a time not far from the old king, on the banks of the lake and near where the canal bridge is now located in Geneva. At the time of General Sullivan's

expedition the old king was too far advanced in years to take any part in the war, and was among those who fled in advance of the army to the British fort at Niagara. Young King was at that time a lad of ten or twelve summers. The record that he made for himself in subsequent years was an honor to his race and his life was in many respects a shining example for the white man.

The old king, as he has so frequently been styled by several writers, was the chief sachem of the Senecas. * [He is mentioned in 1751(Pa. Col. rec. v. 542.) "A son of CAYENQUARAGHTA a Sineker chief was killed by the French in the late war with the English"; and again in 1758 as attending the great treaty at Easton as "KAYENQUARAGHTON a war captain"( Pa. Archives III. 558) at which time TAGECHSADO was chief sachem and whom he probably succeeded soon after, as in 1764 SAYENQUERAGHTA signs the preliminary articles of peace at Johnson Hall (N. Y. Col. Hist. VII. 623.) He appears again at Johnson Hall at a conference in July 1771 (N. Y. Col Hist, VIII. 282) and again in April 1774 where he makes a long speech (N. Y.Col. His. VIII 424). The hereditary title attached to the Chief-Sachemship of the Senecas was GANEODIYO signifying Handsome Lake, (League of the Iroquois65), this was the official title; they continued however to be known by their previous names held as war captains, and frequently by a name descriptive of their duties, as in this case of GUYANGWAHDOH, he bears the council brand, or he carries the smoke. He appears to have been chief-sachem of the Senecas from about 1760 until his death which occurred several years after the destruction of Kanadaseaga in 1779. His wife was a Cayuga, and a daughter of his married Roland Montour, son of Catherine Montour who was a sister of Queen Esther and granddaughter of Madame Montour. In the spring of 1780 or 1781 he settled with his family on Smoke Creek, south of Buffalo, near Fort Erie. Roland Montour commanded the party of Indians that captured the Gilbert family, near present Weissport, Carbon Co., Pa., April 25, 1780, John Montour, his brother, being second in command. They were taken through Catherinestown, Kanadaseaga, etc., to Fort Erie and afterwards to the point above named. The narrative of the Gilbert family gives a long account and is very interesting. Roland Montour probably died in 1781. John Montour died and was buried on the Genesee river in 1830. One of the Gilbert boys was adopted into the old king's family in a position to succeed him as Chief Sachem; he was then eleven years old, but the restoration of the boy to his family prevented the arrangement that had been made and afterward Young King was assigned to this position and succeeded to the Chief Sachemship on the death of Siangorochti].

Many of the distinguished sachems of the confederacy met in frequent counsel at the old castle, and up to the time of the destruction of the village it was an important point. The Rev. Samuel Kirkland, whose missionary labors among the Indians won for him the love and respect of the race wherever his name was known, lived here for a time, arriving about the 7th of February 1764. The chief sachem, old king, was his friend and protector. In a letter written to Sir. William Johnson June 17. 1765, he says: "The sachem and several others do really appear friendly—in general they treat me with no more respect than they would a dog—but this is equal to me. I believe a little more provision than I'm likely to get here, will be necessary for my subsistance this summer. The Indians from above living so much upon this town since ye general meeting, has created a great scarcity of provisions. I suppose there is not 3 bushels of Indian corn in ye Castle, when I went from hence last spring they were well stored. Could I have a plenty of fresh venison and bears flesh, I would do without bread, ye staff of life, but to have little of either and ye most of yt little rotten, I think may be called course fare."

"It was said in ye ancient puritanic times, yt man should not live by bread alone—the modern ages it seems have degenerated, especially in these parts, for we are like to be denied any bread at all." (Doc. Hist. IV. 358.)

In 1778 the Senecas prepared to repel any efforts that might be made to penetrate their country on the part of the American army, and Kanadaseaga was thronged with warriors. Big Tree, a chief of the Senecas, who was with General Washington during the summer of 1778, and returned to his nation in the autumn, reported that he found them all in arms and the village of Kanadaseaga crowded with warriors from remote tribes.

A short distance from the circle within which stood the old castle, not more than 25 rods to the north of the brook running through the village, is an artificial Indian mound, where the bones of many of the dis-

* The portion above enclosed in brackets embodies some conclusions arrived at by General Clark as the result of further investigations made by him since the original publication of my article on Kanadaseaga. The relationship existing between Old King and Young King appears to be a difficult matter to determine; at least there is a diversity of opinion among the writers of the present day. Whether Young King was a grandson, nephew, or a son, (as one writer classes him), is a point upon which several good authorities differ.—C. M. P.

tinguished Senecas are supposed to have been deposited. It is not known at what period this mound was started, or how many bodies were buried there, and unless it is completely excavated no definite conclusion in regard to its contents can be arrived at. Squier, in his "Antiquities of New York," relates a tradition that was current among the Indians, that a Seneca of giant proportions, having wandered west to the Mississippi, and from thence again to the sea coast, about the period of the civilization of the country, received a gun from a vessel, together with some ammunition and an explanation of its use. Having returned to the Senecas at Kanadaseaga, he exhibited the wonderful implement of destruction to them, which was the first they had seen, and taught them how to use it. Soon after, from some mysterious cause, he was found dead, and this mound was raised over him in the place where he lay. The Indians stated that if the mound should ever be opened a skeleton of supernatural size would be found underneath. No effort had ever been made to discover its contents until our party visited it on the 31st of July. With a view of establishing the historical fact that the bones of Seneca warriors are mouldering beneath its sod, we made a slight excavation on its summit. At a depth of less than two feet we discovered a human skeleton, and found several of the usual articles which the Indians deposit with their dead, viz; a copper kettle with handle attached, very much rust eaten, two pipe bowls, traces of woven cloth, blade of scalping knife, belt buckle, etc.; these are in the possession of the Waterloo Historical Society, except one of the pipe bowls which was presented to Geo. S. Conover. The fact of finding a skeleton so near the surface is conclusive evidence that several bodies were deposited in the mound from time to time. * Originally it must have been very extensive, but as the field in which it is located has been under cultivation for many years, its dimensions have become greatly reduced. At the present time it is about forty feet in diameter and four or five feet high.

One of the most marked traits of character among the Iroquois was their veneration for the burial places of their people, and "their lamentations on being driven far away from the graves of their fathers, have been the theme of all historians and travelers." Their love for their homes and sacred reverence for the graves of their kindred exhibits the highest and noblest traits of the human heart, and within the bosom of these red men of the forest there has dwelt a filial piety rarely met with in the history of the white man. Their funeral rites were most solemn and impressive, and the graves of their ancestors were to them the dearest spot on earth. To disturb them was to incite hostility. They watched over them with a devotion unknown to the white man, and were ever ready to protect them at the sacrifice of their lives. There is a tradition among the old residents of Geneva that they swore eternal vengeance against the hand that should disturb the bones in the old Castle mound. The lands around the mound at Kanadaseaga were first purchased by the Whitney's who, it is said made a solemn pledge to the Senecas that the mound should never be disturbed, and the same pledge was made by the Critten'en's when they came into possession of the property. For years the Indians would return at regular intervals and spend hours in silent meditation by the mound. Regularly in the Indian summer or just as the leaves began to fall, a little band of Indians visited the spot annually, growing less in number as the years passed, to see that the sacred mound had not been disturbed. About twenty-five years ago their annual visits ceased.

* It has been ascertained that recent and surreptitious excavations have before and since this been made, resulting in finding Indians' remains. The same afternoon several parties discovered other skeletons, and the top of a skull of a child 10 or 12 years old, was brought to the writer of this note—G. S. C.

## CHAPTER XX.

### SULLIVAN'S ARMY AT KANADESAGA, SEPT. 7, 8, 9, 1779.

Since the publication of Chapter X, centennial celebrations of General Sullivan's campaign have been held on the battle field of Newtown, five miles below Elmira, on the 29th of August, 1879; at Waterloo on the 30 of September; and at Geneseo September 18th. Preparatory to these events, efforts were made to trace out the line of march of the army, the location of the Indian towns destroyed, and to recall all such interesting historical events as were possible, and the efforts thus made resulted in a very great success.

A number of the officers of Sullivan's army kept journals of the expedition, some of which have been published, and a number more have been accessable to the historian, and from these much valuable information has been obtained. The route of the army around the foot of Seneca Lake, has been so minutely described in some of these journals as to be easily traced, and from the various accounts of Kanadesaga some new facts have been brought to light.

In order that all the information obtained in relation to this locality may be perpetuated, it has been deemed best to give such additional items as are not embraced in the previous chapters, and for this purpose extracts from a few of the officer's journals that give the most minute details are hereto added.

Col. Hubley says that the army arrived at the foot of the lake on the 7th of Sept., 1779, about 2 P. M. "About 3 P. M. the rifle and infantry corps crossed at the mouth of the lake, about knee deep, and not above thirty yards wide. On our arrival at the op-

posite shore we immediately entered a narrow and dangerous defile, bounded on the left by Seneca lake and on our right by a large morass, and flooded at intervals, well calculated to form an ambuscade. From every circumstance, both as to intelligence and the great advantage the enemy might have had from its situation, we fairly expected an attack. However, we moved through in files, supported by the two flanking divisions and gained the other side. The main army then crossed and took our place. We then moved through a second defile, as difficult as the first, and formed again until the main army possessed themselves of the same ground we had just left. We then marched and passed a third defile and formed in a corn-field near a large house, which was beautifully situated on the head [foot] of the lake, and generally occupied by Butler, one of the savage leaders. The light corps, flanked by two flanking divisions, received orders to march and gain the town. The main army took the path and marched immediately in front of the same; but the enemy no doubt having previous notice of our movements, had abandoned the town, which we entered about dusk, leaving behind a number of bear and deer skins, and also a fine white child about three years old. The town is called Kanadasaga and appears to be one of the capital settlements. About it is a fine orchard and council house. There was in the neighborhood a large quantity of corn, beans, etc., which after taking great quantities for the use of the army we totally destroyed. We burned the houses, which were in number about fifty, and girdled the apple trees. Wednesday, Sept. 8th. * * * Thursday, Sept. 9th. On account of a number of pack horses which had gone astray and could not be found, the army did not march at 6 o'clock agreeable to yesterday's orders. A command of fifty men under a captain returned from this place to Tioga, to escort the sick and those who were not able to proceed without retarding the march of the army. * * * All those pack horses which were lame or otherwise reduced likewise returned. About twelve o'clock the army marched, their first route was over bushy land interspersed with remarkably wild high grass, and appeared to have been formerly cleared. We then descended into an extensive maple swamp, which was very rich and well calculated for meadow. After marching seven miles we came to a creek known by the name of Flint Creek.

* * * * * * *

* * Major Beatty says, on arriving near the foot of the lake and outlet, Sept. 7th, "ere we halted as we expected the enemy to attack us, and reconnoitered the ground very well before we proceeded, but found no enemy there. We had to file off from our left and keep close to the bank of the lake, occasioned by a bad marsh which was on our right, likewise to cross the fording of the outlet, which is about twenty yards wide, but not hollow deep and rapid. After we crossed, kept near west course along the beach of the lake for near a mile, where we formed our columns, but soon finding a marsh in our front and again to the left of our left and march again along the beach for about half a mile, when we again got into our form of position in columns and then waited until the army had time to cross and come up, when we marched on a little way and came to another marsh in front, which prevented our marching any longer in columns; we again filed off to the left and marched along the beach till we came to Butler's buildings, which is two or three buildings on the bank of the lake in a very beautiful situation; here we again formed columns and marched through a corn-field near where the men had orders to pluck corn as they marched through, which they did; we then proceeded toward the town, but our guides being very bad, the whole army got into town before we did, and it was near dark before we got in and quite dark before we encamped. This is the chief town in the Seneca nation; it lies about one and a half miles from the lake, and about a west course; it lies on a pretty level, but no good stream of water near it, only one small brook running through it, which affords but very little water; there is about seventy or eighty houses in it, built very compact and the chief of the houses very good; likewise I heard that there was two or three old block-houses in it, but I did not see them as it was dark when we came in and the men began immediately to pull down the houses for fire wood.

I believe the Indians had left it several days as there was not much appearance of their being here lately. On the first entrance of our brigade a young child, I believe about three years old was found running about the house, which one of our officers picked up and found to be a white child, but it was so much tanned that we could hardly distinguish it from an Indian child, and was exceedingly poor, scarcely able to walk; it could talk no English, nothing but Indian, and I believe but a little of that. The officer took great care of it and clothed it, as it was naked when he found it, and could give no account of itself, only said "his mammy was gone." The men got very little plunder. * * * * * The name of the town is Kanadasago. * * * Wednesday, 8th. * * * About 10 o'clock Major Parr with the rifle corps and the Cohorn were going up the lake to a little town called Kershong to destroy it. I with a number of others went volunteers and got there about 12 o'clock—found it about 8 miles from camp. * * * The town consisted of about 15 houses tolerably well built, and altogether we got here 5 horses and a great number of potatoes, apples, peaches, cucumbers, watermelons, fowls, etc., and found a great quantity of corn here which we went about to destroy after burning the houses. * * * * * Thursday, 9th.—Last night very grand thunder and lightning and rain but cleared up toward morning. * * * The volunteers immediately set for camp, leaving Major Parr and the rest to cut the corn, and just as we got to Kanadasago about 11 o'clock the army was just marching off after destroying all the houses which remained and corn; we marched a west course from Kanadasago through most part a low swamp, encamped about 5 o'clock on a very pretty brook after marching 7 miles; in the evening Major Parr joined us from Kershong."

The outlet of the lake and fording place spoken of in the foregoing journals is not the present outlet at the north-east corner of the lake, which is an artificial opening made by the Seneca Lock Navigation company, but the mouth of the old outlet was about a half mile west, and at a place known as the Ten Place, and the outlet included not only the mouth which went from the lake northerly for a few rods, but also that part which turned with a bend at the end of the mouth, around towards the east and run ning easterly for a distance and then another bend toward the north and thence around easterly and on to Waterloo and Seneca Falls, and which in later years was known as Seneca river, and which is now the canal, although for the purpose of straightening, the bed of the river has been somewhat deviated from, but the whole of which in early days was known as the outlet of Seneca lake.

It was on the north side of this outlet that Leonard Widner moved with his family, including his son John, then a lad of 10 years of age, in the year 1790, and established a ferry there, his location being some 30 or 40 rods to the east of the turn of the road, and about opposite to where Vreeland's landing and falling mill afterwards was.

The main fording place in later years was where in the mouth of the outlet was a small island, 6 or 8 rods from the lake. From the lake to near the head of this island the channel of the outlet was quite narrow and deep, but at and below the island it became much wider and more shallow. On the west side

of the outlet opposite this island a point of high land came down from the north; at the head of this island the ford crossed from the south to the island, and from thence on a bar of gravel to the point of high land. About 8 rods north from the island was a bank 8 feet or so high; this was opposite or north of the bend in the mouth of the outlet, or of that part of the outlet which turned from the north around to the east; on this high ground the road ran westerly, striking the beach of the lake at the distance of about half a mile; south of this high ground and between it and the lake and west of the mouth of the outlet, was a swamp or marshy ground.

At the time of the removal of the Widner family to the outlet, there was the remnants of an old bridge plainly visible, the situation being some 25 or 30 rods east of the Widner habitation. In the year 1791, Elkanah Watson, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Gen. Philip Van Cortlandt and Stephen N. Bayard made an extensive tour by water through the interior of New York. Passing through the river or outlet to Seneca Lake, whither the party arrived Sept. 20, Mr. Watson wrote: "As we approached the lake, we noticed several small creeks and some natural meadows, and on the north shore a *log ferry house*. Here we saw the *remains of an Indian bridge*. At this spot the victorious army of Sullivan forded the river in pursuit of the flying savages in 1779. The sun was just setting as we entered the lake, which opened upon us like a new creation, rising to our view in picturesque and romantic beauty." Mr. John Widner says that it was commonly talked of in those days as a bridge built by Sullivan's army.

The Indian trail or path came from Skoi-yase on the north side of the outlet, sometimes on the very bank, and keeping as close to it as the nature of the ground and the straightness of the path permitted, only diverging when the necessity as above stated required; it did not follow close around the outlet to the beach of the lake as it was a swamp on the west side of the mouth of the outlet, but the path followed on the ridge of clay ground, which has before been stated as being on the north side of the outlet, and went in a westerly direction, striking the beach of the lake, about a half-mile west of the mouth of the outlet. Another path came from the south through Seneca county and around the foot of the lake and striking the path before mentioned and continued along the foot of the lake and kept on towards the old castle or Kanadesaga proper, keeping on the north or right hand side of Kanadesaga or Castle Brook, striking the high bank of the ravine containing the brook near where Polydore B. Wisner afterwards lived (now Henry Maxwell).

The following are additional extracts from the officers' journals:

Colonel Dearborn says: Sept 7th * * "When we came in sight of the ford we halted and sent out scouts to reconnoitre the ground, who finding the coast clear, the army passed the ford and found a small settlement, after which we advanced and came to a large town, called Kanhadagea, the capital of the Senecas, and is called the Seneca Castle. It consists of forty houses, very irregularly situated, in the centre of which are the ruins of a stockade fort or blockhouse. There are considerable numbers of apple and other fruit trees and a few acres of cleared land covered with grass. The corn fields which are large, are at some distance from the town. * * * In the houses were a number of skins, some corn and many curiosities."

Journal of Captain Charles Nukerck, of the second N. Y. regiment. This journal has a curious and interesting history; extracts from it have been published in "Annals of Tryon County" as from the journal of an officer; by Colonel Stone, in his "Life of Brant" it is noticed as being the journal of Cap. Theodosius Fowler; and extracts have appeared from time to time as from the journal of Colonel or General Gansevoort. The following is taken from it: "Sept. 7th, * * * Arrived at sundown at the northwest corner of the lake, where we destroyed a town and some corn, and proceeded to Kanadesago, the capital of the Senecas, where we arrived at eight o'clock at night. The town lies on a level spot of ground about one and a half miles north (N. W.) of the lake, and consisted of about sixty houses, and a great plenty of apple and peach trees. The enemy on their retreat from this place, left * * * some horses, corn, etc.

Sept. 8th. This day we employed in destroying the corn, beans, etc., at this place, of which there was a great quantity." * * *

Major Norris says Sept 7th, "the army passed the ford, proceeded three miles by the end of the lake, and found a small sett lement which we destroyed—the village—and proceeded two miles from the lake and arrived at a large town called Kannadasaga which is considered the capital of the Senecas and is called the Senecas Castle. It consists of about forty houses very irregularly situated in the centre of which is the ruins of a stockade fort and block-house; here is * * * a few acres of land covered with English grass. Their corn fields which are very large are at some distance from the town * * * * In the houses was left a number of things, some corn and a number of curosities. 8th, * * * we found a number of stacks of hay not far from this town which we set fire to * * * 9th. By reason of rain last night the army did not march till 12 o'clock. * * * we proceeded three miles through old fields covered with grass, then entered a thick swamp." * * *

Dr. Jabez Campfield says, Sept 7th. "The army marched, and having crossed at the mouth of the Seneca lake, the ford shallow and narrow, passed on through a narrow defile, made by the lake on one side and a deep swamp on the other, and arrived upon a plane open wood, of but small extent then passed another long defile, made as the former. The land and timber much the same with what we passed over the last three or four days—no hills or mountains on either side the river. After ward we entered a thick wood—General Maxwell's brigade went off to the right, and Gen'l Hand's with the two flanking columns went off to the left. We entered the town of Conadasego, a large indian settlement, one of the principal towns of the nation some time after sun set * * * * Here we find great quantities of corn, beans, &c. * * *

Sept. 8th, * * * In the town, Conadasego, are a considerable number of apple trees 2 or 30 years old, and about 50 houses. * * *

Sept. 9th. The army marched about noon, and arrived at their encampment a little before sunset having passed a swamp about four miles, in the whole 7½ miles. This swamp is the first black ash swamp I have seen, of any consequence since I left New Jersey. The timber in the swamp is oak black and white ash, beech, bass, maple, white wood, little white pine, elm and button wood."

The journal of Lieut. John L. Hardenbergh with maps and copious historical notes by General John S. Clark, has lately been published by the Cayuga County Historical Society, Auburn, N. Y. It contains a brief account of the march of the army and of their doings at "Cannadasago or Seneca Castle. The notes and maps of Gen. Clark are invaluable as they are the result of a laborious investigation of three years, during which time he has been indefatigable in searching out every scrap of historical information and made a thorough inspection of the line of march of Sullivan's army, tracing up the route and critically examining all the important points. The following is note No. 85, "From Kanadaseaga the route was first south-west for about

two miles to the present turnpike, and thence nearly due west along the line of the turnpike to Canandaigua."

Beauchamp mentions an ancient stockade fort between Kanadesaga and Canadaigua. This was on Flint creek on lot 92 in N. W. corner of the town of Seneca. The encampment was on Flint creek."

A. Tiffany Norton, Esq., Lima, N. Y., in his valuable book on Sullivan's campaign, published in 1879 says, on the authority of the journal of Moses Fellows, sergeant 3d N. H. regiment, that when ready to break camp on the 8th Sept., the soldiers destroyed all the "corn, beans, peas, squashes, potatoes, onions, turnips, cabbages, cucumbers, watermelons, carrots and parsnips the men, horses and cattle could not eat."

Gen. Sullivan, in his official report, says "We crossed the outlet of the Seneca lake and moved in three divisions through the woods to encircle Kanadesaga, but found it his wise abandoned. A white child of about three years old, doubtless the offspring of some unhappy captive, was found here and carried with the army. A detachment of four hundred men was sent down on the west side of the lake to destroy Gothseningquoat and the plantations in the same quarters; at the same time a number of volunteers under Col. Harper made a forced march towards Cayuga lake and destroyed Schoyere while the residue of the army were employed in destroying the corn at Kanadisaga of which there was a large quantity. This town consisted of fifty houses and was pleasantly situated. In it were found a great number of fruit trees which were destroyed with the town."

The following extract in relation to Kanadesaga as it was seen by Mrs. Colonel Samuel Campbell, who was a prisoner there a few months previous to Sullivan's campaign is taken from "Annals of Tryon County" page 175.

"This village was laid out with some regularity, and in almost a circular form, enclosing a large green. The houses were generally built of bark, after the rude style of the Indians. A few were of hewn logs."

## CORRECTIONS AND ERRATA.

On page 6, the date in the first line of Chapter II, should be 1784, instead of 1791.

On page 6, 1st column, the west and south bounds of the reservation to Peter Hyckman in the Indian treaty, are omitted; the following should be added after the word *thence*, at the end of the 21st line from the bottom, and so as to be inserted between that and the next line below:

"due south along the said line of partition, thence due east to the Seneca lake, thence"

The writer has also been led into an error on page 14, near the bottom of the 1st column in stating that Charles A. Williamson assumed a "title of nobility to which he became entitled," such not being the case, as the estate to which he became heir, did not carry a title of nobility with it in the succession.

In Chapter X, on page 17 it is stated that Kiangaraghta distinguished himself at the battle of Newtown; that the King of Kanadesaga was reported to have been killed, and that a certificate was taken from the body of Kaziniwaurto, a principal Seneca chief at Kanadesaga, who was killed by a scouting party of the army.

There is very much confusion, if not absolute misstatement in the foregoing, as the names mentioned are variations of the name of Old King, and point strongly to him as the person indicated. It is either an error, or else alludes to some one else, whose name was somewhat similar, as Old King was not at the battle of Newtown, and was so aged that he took no part in the war.

The Property Line on page 33, it is stated that the original treaty between Sir William Johnson and the Indians, marking the boundary between the white settlements and the Indians, was lost. Since the publication of that article it has been discovered that a copy of the treaty with a map of the boundary line is to be found in Doc. His. Vol. I, p. 557. It is a deed executed at Fort Stanwix, Nov. 5, 1768, and marks the boundary in the State of New York, by a line commencing at the N. E corner of Pennsylvania, from whence it runs up the Delaware river to about the centre of what is now Delaware county, and thence by a direct line to Canada creek where it empties into the Wood creek at the west of the carrying place, beyond Fort Stanwix."

The deed stipulates "that the lands occupied by the Mohocks around their villages as well as by any other nation, affected by this our session may effectually remain to them and their posterity."

On page 41, there is a second chapter XVIII, which should have been an addenda to that chapter.

Notwithstanding the very great care taken in the orthography of names, a very few errors have occurred, but of no material importance. A few typographical errors have been overlooked in proofreading, which will be readily seen at a glance.

# A CARD.

In the preface of this pamphlet there is mentioned a map of the Gore, in the Comptroller's office, Albany, which should have been stated as a map of the town of Seneca, by David Hudson, 1810. A copy of the same has been procured, and I would be glad of any information relating to it, as the plotting of the village is so entirely different from what it is to-day, or what it is on any of the early maps. The map is an enigma to me, which I would be glad to have solved.

I would be extremely glad to procure any old maps, papers, documents or pamphlets that relate to the village of Geneva, and will be thankful for any information as to where any such are. It is very desirable to gather up even all the fragments that pertain to the early history of this place, and to record the same in the village record book provided for that purpose, so that the same may be preserved and be accessible to the future historian.

Should there be any other errors besides those already noted, I would be glad to have them pointed out, as it is not my intention to *manufacture* history, but to record facts, and to this end criticism is desired and solicited.

I would express my sincere thanks to the many gentlemen who have so kindly responded to my inquries and given me very much valuable information. It would gratify me to record the names of all such here, but the limited space forbids any such attempt, and I can only name Benjamin F. Young, Esq., Bath, N. Y., Edward Kingsland, Esq., Geneva, General John S. Clark, Auburn, Rev. Albert Bigelow, Cor. Sec'y Buffalo Historical Society, for their exceeding great kindness and assistance, C. M. Hubbard, Esq., for his valuable chapter, and Colonel William H. Terrell, for many years and until lately, land clerk in the office of the Secretary of State, Albany, N. Y., who has especially been very assiduous in his attentions, kindly searching out and bringing to my notice historical and other papers in the Secretary's office, promptly answering the very many letters of inquiry addressed to him, and furnishing me with very much valuable information.

In conclusion I would disclaim any credit of authorship, as the ideas of others have been freely used, proper credit being given therefor where necessary, the only credit deserved is for the labor of searching out and gathering together the information obtained, and compiling the same for publication.

GEO. S. CONOVER.

Geneva, N. Y., March 17, 1880.

# CALENDAR

OF

# LAND PAPERS

## RELATING TO THE GORE.

In the office of the Secretary of State are a number of volumes of Colonial manuscripts, endorsed Land Papers. An index of these papers, showing briefly their contents, was prepared and published in 1864, the title of the printed volume being "Calendar of N. Y., Colonial Manuscripts in the office of the Secretary of State of New York, 1643—1803.

From this Calendar has been selected a list of such papers as relate to the tract of land between the old and the new pre-emption lines, commonly known as the Gore, and in addition, the papers that relate to the village of Geneva and the immediate vicinity having been examined, their contents are more fully given. The abstract thus made has been arranged as much as possible, so as to be in connection with the subject to which it relates.

I.

*Controversy between Reed and Ryckman. Claim of Seth Reed for a joint interest with Peter Ryckman, in the Patent to be granted by the State of New York for lands which Ryckman had secured to be reserved for himself in the treaty between the State and the Cayuga Indians.*

VOLUME XLVII. 1789.

*1789.* Aug. 24. Caveat of Seth Reed against granting letters patent to Peter Ryckman, for two tracts of land, one 16,000 acres on the west side of Seneca lake and another, one mile square at the Cayuga ferry. Page 59.

VOLUME XLIX. 1790.

*Papers relating to an agreement between Seth Reed and Peter Ryckman, concerning a grant of land for which they applied.*

Oct 15.—Letter from Seth Reed to Gov. Clinton, respecting the testimony given by Peter Ryckman's witnesses. Page 115.

1789. Aug. 24.—Affidavit of Joel Prescott, that Peter Ryckman agreed with Seth Reed to divide equally whatever land should be granted them. Page 116.

Aug. 24.—Affidavit of Elias Dickinson, respecting the agreement between Peter Ryckman and Seth Reed concerning the land to be granted them. Page 117.

Aug. 25.—Affidavit of James Manning Reed, that Peter Ryckman said that Seth Reed should have one half of the land granted, pursuant to an agreement between them. Page 118.

Aug. 27.—Affidavit of Albert Ryckman, that he knew of the agreement

between his father Peter Ryckman and Seth Reed, respecting the lands to be granted to them. Page 119.

*1789*, Oct. 31.—Affidavit of David Smith, respecting Seth Reed's exertions in procuring a treaty with Cayuga Indians about the lands granted to Peter Ryckman, etc. Page 120.

Oct. 31.—Affidavit of Thomas Sisson, respecting Seth Reed's exertions to induce the Indians to a treaty with the state. Page 121.

Oct. 31.—Affidavit of Gilbert R. Berry, that Seth Reed and Peter Ryckman gave a considerable quantity of provisions to the Indians in order to induce them to go to Albany to conclude a treaty and that said Reed and Ryckman were to have equal shares in the lands obtained from said Indians, etc. Page 122.

Oct. 31.—Affidavit of Peter Bortle, respecting the dispute between Seth Reed and Messrs. Livingston, Benton and Allen, in consequence of said Reed having obtained a lease for certain lands, claimed by them, from the Indians, and showing the respective influence of Messrs. Reed and Ryckman, and their endeavors to propitiate the Indians by giving them cattle and provisions. Page 123.

Oct. 31.—Affidavit of John Richardson, that in the summer of 1788, he was one of the agents sent by the government to bring down the Indians to make a treaty, and that the lessees rolled out several barrels of flour to the Indians to prevent their coming down to attend the treaty, and that the said lessees threw out many reflections against Seth Reed as being the cause of considerable expense to them, and for having acted with the government against them. Page 124.

Oct. 31.—Affidavit of Asa Ransom, that in the fall of 1787, he was conversant with the lessee company, who were making purchases from the Indians, and that Peter Ryckman was reputed to be the most formidable opposer to said company in leading the Indians to make a treaty with the government, and that Seth Reed was most able in such opposition having had most influence with the government. Page 125.

Oct. 31.—Affidavit of *Leark Jennings, that he was informed by the Indians that at any time they went to Col. Reed they could get what provisions they wanted from him, and that the deponent always understood the provisions so given were at the joint expense of Col. Reed and Peter Ryckman, and that Doctor Caleb Benton, one of the lessees, said that Col. Reed induced Peter Ryckman to act against them. Page 126.

Nov. 2.—Affidavit of Peter Hobart, that Seth Reed and Peter Ryckman had a number of cattle killed for the use of the Indians, who were going to Albany, to make a treaty about certain land etc. Page 127.

Nov. 2.—Affidavit of Ephriam Webster, an Indian interpreter residing at Onondaga, that he was in Albany during the treaty, and that he had heard some of the Cayugas, Onondagas, and Oneidas say that a tract of land would be reserved for Peter Ryckman and Seth Reed, and that George and Steeltrap, both Cayuga chiefs, said that the lands reserved were intended to be equally divided between Peter Ryckman and Seth Reed. Page 127.

Nov. 2.—Affidavit of Thody Cowl, respecting the provisions supplied by Seth Reed and Peter Ryckman to the Indians on their way to the treaty, and that said Ryckman offered a lot to John Mc Kinstry, and that the lessees considered Seth Reed their greatest enemy. Page 128.

Nov. 3.—Affidavit of Stephen Wilkinson respecting the agreement between Seth Reed and Peter Ryckman about expenses incurred, and the compensation to be made them, for forwarding the Indians to the treaty at Fort Stanwix. Page 129.

Nov. 3.—Affidavit of Hugh Maxwell, in support of Seth Reed's claim to the

—*So in the original.

lands granted to Peter Ryckman. Page 130.

*1789*, Sept. 24.—Certificate of Thomas Kirkland, that Peter Ryckman stated in his (Ryckman's) presence, that Seth Reed was to have one-half of the land obtained from the Cayuga Indians, and that Steeltrap, a Cayuga sachem, said that they were to have the land equally divided between them. Page 131.

1790, Feb. 18.—Certificate of Samuel Kirkland, that Peter Ryckman said he had agreed to convey to Seth Reed one-half of the lands to be granted to them. Page 131.

Oct. 15.—Affidavit of James Manning Reed, that his father, Seth Reed, was never furnished with provisions by Peter Ryckman. Page 132.

Oct. 15.—Affidavit of John Reed, in the case of Seth Reed against Peter Ryckman. Page 133.

Dec. 15.—Deposition of Joel Prescott, in the case of Seth Reed against Peter Ryckman. Page 134

Oct. 15.—Deposition of Rufus S. Reed, in the case of Seth Reed against Peter Ryckman. Page 135.

II.

*Charles Williamson's schedule of lands for which he claims compensation from the State.*

VOLUME LXI. 1796-1798.

1796, Sep. 21—Minute of the proceedings of the land board relative to Mr. Charles Williamson's proposal to surrender 40,000 acres of land to the State, between the old and new pre-emption lines, etc., and Attorney General's report as to the duties proper to be required of the surveyor general by the Commissioners of the land office. Page 115.

VOLUME LXII. 1798-1800.

1798, March 24.—Report of surveyor general relative to compensation to be made to Charles Williamson, and of lands to be surrendered by him, between the old and new pre-emption lines. Page 24.

1799, July 6—Report of Attorney General, on the application of Charles Williamson, for compensation for certain lands to be conveyed to the State of New York. Page 85.

Schedule No. 1, containing a list of the lands to which said Charles Williamson derives title solely under the commonwealth of Massachusetts. Page 87.

Schedule No. 2, list of lands, the title to which he desires to hold under Massachusetts. Page 88.

The following is a copy of the foregoing:

SCHEDULE No. 1.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | A certain tract of land granted by Letters Patent bearing date the 21st day of Dec. 1796 to John Carpenter. No. of acres..... | 200 |
| 2. | A certain tract of land granted by Letters Patent bearing date the 9th day of May 1791 to Samuel Latta. Acres..... | 200 |
| 3. | A certain tract of land granted by Letters Patent bearing date the 27th day of May 1791 to Nathaniel Owens. Acres..... | 200 |
| 4. | A certain tract of land granted by Letters Patent bearing date the 27th day of April, 1791 to Moses Phillips. Acres..... | 800 |
| 5. | A certain tract of land granted by Letters Patent bearing date the 27th day of April 1791 to John Quick. Acres..... | 400 |
| 6. | A certain tract of land granted by Letters Patent bearing date the 16th day of April 1794 to Abraham G. Lansing and Moses DeWitt. Acres..... | 600 |
| 7. | A certain tract of land granted by Letters Patent bearing date the 16th day of April, 1791, to James Walker..... | 1,500 |

8. All the land lying between the line run by Benjamin Ellicott for the East bounds of the tract ceded by this state to the commonwealth of Massachsetts, and the line formerly run—commonly called the old pre-emption line, and extending from the south bounds of Lot No. 145 in the township of Chemung to the south bound of a tract of 24,914 acres of land heretofore granted by the People of this state to James Watson, and which said parcel of land hereby released is contained in certain Letters Patent issued under the authority of this state, bearing date the 25th day of June, 1794. --J ohnW. Watkins, computed in the report of the Surveyor General to contain acres..... 7,256

9. All the lands lying as aforesaid between the said line, run by the said Benjamin Ellicott and the said old pre-emption line being part and parcel of the above mentioned tract of 24,914 acres of land granted in and by Letters Patent and bearing date the 25th day of June, 1794 to James Watson, computed in and by said report of the Surveyor General to contain acres ..... 3,996

Number of acres..... 14,146

SCHEDULE No. 2.

1. Patent dated 12 April, 1791, to Joseph Poudre. Acres..... 320
2. Patent dated 28 Feb., 1791, to Abraham Hardenburg and Moses DeWitt. Acres..... 400
3. Patent dated 28 Feb, 1791, to Abraham Hardenburg and Moses DeWitt. Acres ..... 400
4. Patent dated 28 Feb., 1791, to Abraham Hardenburg and Moses DeWitt. Acres..... 1,200
5. Patent dated 10 Aug., 1790, to J. Manning Reed. Acres..... 400
6. Patent dated 18 January, 1792, to James Cannon. Acres..... 1,500
7. Patent dated 28 Feb., 1791, to Patrick Burnett. Acres..... 200
8. Patent dated 28 Feb., 1791, to James Humphrey Acres..... 200
9. Patent dated 16 Feb., 1791, to James Roe. Acres..... 200
10. Patent dated 16 Feb., 1791, to Stephen Lush. Acres..... 2,353
11. Patent dated 9 Dec., 1790, to Henry Oothoudt Acres..... 1,800
12. Patent dated 16 April, 1790, to Sanford Williams and Jerom Loomis. Acres..... 400
13. Patent dated 9 Dec., 1790, to Henry Oothoudt. Acres..... 629
14. Patent dated 9 Dec., 1790, to Henry Oothoudt Acres..... 630
15. All that certain piece of land being part and parcel of Lot 14 in Township of Junius and which lies between the old and new pre-emption lines, granted by Patent dated Sept. 2, 1790, to John Cockley. Acres..... 386
16. Also 2,009 acres of land being an undivided part of a tract of 2466¾ acres granted by patent dated April 27, 1791, to John Lansing, Jr. Acres..... 2,009
17. Also 2,300 acres of land being an undivided part or parcel of a tract of 2,600 acres granted to Wm. J. Vredenburgh, dated July 19, 1791. Acres..... 2,300
18. Also 5,865¾ acres of land being an undivided part of a tract of 6,600 acres granted to Thomas Palmer, dated Nov. 30, 1790. Acres..... 5,865¾
19. Also 2,450 acres of land being an undivided part of a tract of 3,450 acres granted to John D. Dickerson, dated April 19, 1793. Acres.. 2,450

Number of acres..... 23,642¾

Total No. of acres for which Charles Williamson claims compensation 37,788¾

*1789.* July 5.—Return of survey of a certain tract of land near Sodus Bay, Cayuga County, set apart by the commissioners of the land office, to compensate Charles Williamson for lands between the old and new pre-emption lines, (Huron, Rose, Wolcott and Butler, Wayne County.) Page 89.

III.

*Papers in relation to the lands embraced in Charles Williamson's schedules, for which he asked compensation from the State.*

VOLUME XLVIII. 1790.

1790, April 2.—Certificate of location for James Manning Reed of a tract of 400 acres of land, to the north of Seneca lake, beginning at the north-east corner of a tract granted to Seth Reed, (Phelps, Ontario County.) Page 75.

1790, April 22.—Certificate of location for Sanford Williams and Jerom Loomis, of a tract of 400 acres of land, to the north of Seneca lake, beginning at the north-east corner of a tract laid out for James Manning Reed, (Phelps, Ontario County.) Page 85.

VOLUME XLIX. 1790.

1790, Nov. 15.—Return of Survey for James Roe of a tract of 200 acres of land lying to the north of Seneca lake, (Phelps, Ontario County.) Page 147.

1790, Nov. 15.—Return of survey for Abraham Hardenbergh and Moses DeWitt, of a tract of 400 acres of land, to the north of Seneca lake, (Phelps, Ontario County.) Page 148.

1790, Nov. 15.—Return of survey for Patrick Burnet of a tract of 200 acres of land, to the north of Seneca lake, (Phelps, Ontario County.) Page 149.

1790, Nov. 15.—Return of survey for James Humphrey of a tract of 200 acres of land, to the north of Seneca lake, (Phelps, Ontario County.) Page 150.

1790, Nov. 15.—Return of survey for Abraham Hardenbergh and Moses DeWitt of a tract of 400 acres of land, to the north of Seneca lake, (Phelps, Ontario County.) Page 151.

1790, Nov. 16.—Return of survey for Abraham Hardenbergh and Moses DeWitt of a tract of 1,200 acres of land, to the north of Seneca lake, (Phelps, Ontario County.) Page 152.

1790, Nov. 17.—Return of survey for Thomas Palmer of a tract of 6,600 acres of land, to the north of Seneca lake, (Lyons, Wayne County.) Page 153.

1790, Nov. 17.—Return of survey for Henry Oothoudt of a tract of 1,800 acres of land, to the north of Seneca lake, (Lyons, Wayne County.) Page 155.

1790, Nov. 17.—Return of survey for Stephen Lush of a tract of 2,353 acres of land, to the north of Seneca lake, (Lyons, Wayne County.) Page 156.

1790, Nov. 30.—Return of survey for Henry Oothoudt of a tract of 630 acres of land on the south side of lake Ontario, between the lands ceded to Massachusetts and the lands set apart for the troops of the State of New York, (Sodus, Wayne County.) Page 163.

1790, Nov. 30.—Return of survey for Henry Oothoudt of a tract of 629 acres of land, on the south side of lake Ontario, between the lands ceded to Massachusetts and the lands set apart for the troops of the State of New York, (Sodus, Wayne County.) Page 164.

1790, Dec. 17.—Certificate of location for James Cannon of a tract of 1,500 acres of land lying to the north of Seneca lake, and beginning at the north-east corner of a tract granted to Sanford Williams and Jerom Loomis, (Phelps, Ontario County.) Page 181.

VOLUME L. 1790–1791.

1791, Jan. 30.—Return of survey for Joseph Poudre of a tract of land containing 320 acres, on the west side of Seneca lake, beginning at the mouth of the Cashong creek, reserved by a treaty with the Cayuga Indians for said Joseph Poudre, who married a daughter of a Cayuga, (Seneca, Ontario County, and Benton, Yates County.) Page 16.

V.

*1791*, Jan. 31.—Return of survey for William J. Vredenburgh of a tract of 2,600 acres of land on the west side of Seneca lake, between the lands ceded to Massachusetts and the lands reserved for the troops of the State of New York, (Torrey and Milo, Yates County.) Page 18.

1791, Jan. 31.—Return of survey for John Lansing, Jr., of a tract of land containing 2,466½ acres on the west side of Seneca lake, between the lands ceded to Massachusetts and the lands set apart for the troops of the State of New York, (Torrey and Milo, Yates County.) Page 19.

1791, Feb. 1.—Certificate of location for John Quick of a tract of land containing 400 acres, on the west side of Seneca lake, between the lands ceded to Massachusetts and the lands set apart for the troops of this State, (Starkey, Yates County.) Page 23.

1791, Feb. 1.—Certificate of location for James Walker of a tract of land containing 1,500 acres on the west side of Seneca lake, between the lands ceded to Massachusetts and the lands set apart for the troops of the State of New York, (Milo, Yates County.) Page 24.

1791, Feb. 2.—Certificate of location for Moses Phillips of a tract of land containing 800 acres, on the west side of Seneca lake, between the lands ceded by this State to Massachusetts, and the lands reserved for the troops of the State of New York, (Starkey, Yates County.) Page 26.

1791, Feb. 28.—Patent to Abraham Hardenburgh and Moses DeWitt, of a tract of land containing 1,200 acres, lying to the north of Seneca lake, between the lands ceded to Massachusetts and the lands set apart for the troops of the State of New York, (Phelps, Ontario County.) Page 32.

1791, March 9.—Certificate of location for Samuel Latta of a tract of 200 acres of land, on the west side of Seneca lake, between the lands ceded to Massachusetts and the lands set apart for the troops of the State of New York. (Starkey, Yates County.) Page 45.

1791, March 9.—Certificate of location for Nathaniel Owen of a tract of land containing 200 acres, on the west side of Seneca lake, between the lands ceded to Massachusetts and the lands set apart for the troops of the State of New York. (Starkey, Yates County.) Page 46.

VOMUME LV. 1788—1793.

1793, March 16.—Certificate of location for John D. Dickinson for 3,450 acres of land, in the county of Ontario, (Phelps, Ontario County.) Page 162.

Map of the above land, page 162.

VOLUME LVII. 1793—1794.

794, May 16.—Return of survey for James Watson for 24,914 acres of land in Ontario County, on the west side of Seneca lake, (Starkey, Yates Co.) Page 81.

Map of the above tract, page 81.

NOTE.—Only 3,996 acres of the above was claimed by Williamson as falling west of new pre-emption line.

1794, Jan. 17.—Certificate of location to Abraham G. Lansing and Moses DeWitt for 600 acres of land in the county of Ontario, on the west side of Seneca lake, (Starkey, Yates County.) Page 42.

Map of the above tract, page 42.

VOLUME LXI. 1796—1798.

1794.—Map of 3,600 acres of land belonging to John Carpenter and others: 1,600 acres belonging to Charles McKnight and others, between the old and new pre-emption lines; also a small gore adjoining, containing 463 acres, (Starkey, Yates County.) Page 150.

IV.

*Livingston and Maule's claim for compensation for loss of Reed and Ryckman tract.*

VOLUME LXIII. 1800—1803.

[No date.] Proposals submitted to the commissioners of the land office, by Edward and John Livingston, proprietors of a tract of land granted to Peter Ryckman and Seth Reed in the County of Ontario. Page 50.

*1796*, June 8.—Certificate of surveyor general, that the line run by Andrew Ellicott for the east bounds of the land ceded to the commonwealth of Massachusetts intersects Ryckman's 16,000 acre tract, so that about 400 acres fall to the east, and the remainder to the west side thereof. Page 62.

VOLUME LXI. 1796—1798.

1796, June 24.—Report of Josiah Ogden Hoffman, attorney general on the application of John and Edward Livingston, for compensation for loss of part of Ryckman and Reed's patent, by the running of the east line of the lands ceded to Massachusetts. Page 21.

1794, July 17—Deed from Judah Colt, sheriff of Ontario county to Leonard M. Cutting, of certain lands belonging to Seth Reed, in the county aforesaid, now sold by order of the court. Page 22.

1796, Aug. 15—Petition of Edward Livingston for himself and others, for an appraisement of certain lands taken from them by the new pre-emption line, and a survey of lands granted them instead, which they locate between the river St. Lawrence, the northern frontier of the state, and Lake Champlain. Page 107.

1796, Sep. 19.—Letter from Edward Livingston to the Commissioners of the land board requesting a speedy survey of the lands located by him on the northern frontier, (see page 107). Page 114.

Nov. 17.—Letter of Edward and John Livingston, requesting that appraisers be appointed to appraise their western lands and to value their located lands on the northern frontier. Page 128.

1798, Jan. 16. Report of the surveyor general relative to the appraisement of Reed and Ryckman's patent, etc., in Yates and Ontario counties, and of the equivalent granted them. Page 170.

1799, July 3.—Certificate of judgments in the supreme court against Seth Reed, Peter Ryckman, Leonard M. Cutting, Edward Griswold, John Livingston, Edward Livingston, Peter Bortle, Garret J. Vanderburgh, Wilhelmus Ryckman. Page 24

VOLUME LXII.

1799, June 18.—Assignment by Edward Livingston to Thomas Maule, of all his and John Livingston's right to compensation for lands in Reed and Ryckman's patent, west of the new pre-emption line. Page 84.

1799, July 12.—Return of survey for John Livingston, of a tract of land in the county of Clinton, containg 42,969 acres, and for Thomas Maule another tract in the counties of Clinton and Essex, containing 42,969 acres. (1st tract is in Ausable, Blackbrook, Peru, Schuyler Falls and Saranac, Clinton Co.; 2nd tract in Blackbrook and Ausable, Clinton Co., and Jay, Chesterfield, Lewis and Willsborough, Essex Co.) Page 175

Map of the above and adjoining patents Page 175.

1799, Nov. 6.—Report of attorney general on the claim of John and Edward Livingston or Thomas Maule, to certain lands in Ryckman and Reed's patent, Yates and Ontario counties. Page. 96.

Report of the surveyor general on the equivalent to be made to John and Edward Livingston, for the loss of their lands aforesaid. Page 98.

1799, Nov. 6.—Certificate of the surveyor general, that the new pre-emp-

tion line intersects the patent of Reed and Ryckman, so that about 800 acres at its S. E. corner fall to the eastward of said line. Page 23.

VOLUME LXIII. 1800—1803.

*Title deeds to land claimed by John and Edward Livingston.*

[No date.] Petition of John and Edward Livingston, setting forth that they are tenants in common of certain tracts of land on the west and north sides of Seneca Lake originally granted to Reed and Ryckman, which are now found to be west of the new pre-emption line, praying compensation. Page 15.

Power of attorney from John Livingston to Edward Livingston, to make arrangements with the commissioners of the land office respecting the above. Page 16.

*1791.* July 6.—Deed from Seth Reed, to Leonard M. Cutting, of an undivided half of tract of land on the west side of Seneca Lake, granted to Seth Reed and Peter Ryckman. Page 28.

1791, Oct. 1.—Deed from Peter Ryckman and Lydia, his wife, to Leonard M. Cutting, for and undivided half of the above tract of land, (Cashong farm excepted). Page 19.

1791, July 6.—Deed from Seth Reed and Hannah, his wife, to Leonard M. Cutting, for the undivided half of the above tract of land (Cashong farm and other exceptions). Page 21.

1792, July 17.—Judah Colt, Sheriff, to Leonard M. Cutting, conveys the exceptions in foregoing except Cashong farm. Page 22.

1793, Jan. 17—Deed from Leonard M. Cutting to John Livingston for the whole of Reed and Ryckman's location, containing 16,000 acres, (Torry and Benton, Yates Co., Seneca, Ontario Co. Page 20.

1793, Dec. 27.—Deed from John Livingston to Edward Griswold, of an un divided half of Reed and Ryckman's location aforesaid. Page 25.

1794, Aug. 25.—Deed from Edward Griswold to Edward Livingston, for an undivided half of Reed and Ryckman's location west of Seneca Lake. Page-22.

1791, Aug. 10 - Deed from Peter Ryckman to Peter Bartle Jr., of the one half of Reed and Ryckman location aforesaid. Page 27.

1791, Sep. 2.—Deed from Peter *Bortle Jr., to Gerrit T. Vanderbergh and Wilhelmus Ryckman, for an equal half of Reed and Ryckman's location. Page 24.

1792, Sep. 2—Release of Mary Bartle of her right of dower in above land. Page 23.

1791, Oct. 1.—Deed from Garret Vanderbergh and Wilhelmus Ryckman to Leonard M. Cutting, for an undivided half of the above tract of land. Page 18.

1799, July 25.—Deed from Edward Livingston and Mary, his wife, to Thomas Maule of an undivided half of Reed and Ryckman's location aforesaid. Page 29.

Deduction of title to Ryckman's patent. Page 31.

Deduction of Edward and John Livingston's title to Ryckman and Reed's patent. Page 32.

NOTE.—July 16, 1890 the commissioners of the land office allowed the title on the foregoing claim, of 14,334 acres at $6 per acre, having deducted out of the patent of 16,000 acres, 800 acres which fell to the east of the new line, 320 acres reserved at Cashong, and the titles of Roberts for 200 acres John Reed 200 acres, Josiah Reed 96 acres, Josiah Brown 50 acres, and ordered patents to

*So spelled in the original and is to be found thus in the signature of Peter Bortle Jr.; his fathers signature was sometimes Bortel. It was often pronounced Bartle and is thus found in the body of many old papers. The proper spelling is Bortie.

Livingston and Maule for compensation lands as per return of survey July 12 (see ante) upon their executing the proper releases.

V.

*Claim of Pulteney Estate for compensation for titles purchased in Seth Reed and Lansing Tracts.*

VOL. XLVIII-1790

LANDS IN SETH REED'S TRACT.

*1790.* Feb. 13.—Certificate of location for Seth Reed of a tract of 2,000 acres of land, beginning on the west bank of Seneca lake, at the north-east corner of Peter Ryckman's tract, (Seneca, Ontario County.) Page 41.

1790. Feb. 15.—Patent to Seth Reed for 2,000 acres of land near the Seneca lake, in Montgomery county. (Seneca, Ontario County.) Page 33.

1790, Feb. 24.—Deed from Seth Reed to Asa Danforth, Sanford Williams and Jerom Loomis, of three-fifth parts of the Reed patent above mentioned, lying at Canadasago or the old castle Page 37.

1790. Feb. 15 —Deed from Seth Reed to James Manning Reed, for 200 acres of land at Canadasago old castle; also two undivided fifth parts of 1,800 acres adjoining, in said Seth Reed's location above mentioned. Page 41.

1790. Oct. 20.—Deed from Seth Reed to Timothy Allyn and Sanford Williams, for one-fifth part of 1,800 acres of land, patented to said Reed last February. Page 42.

1792. July 11.—Deed from James M. Reed to Sanford Williams; conveys lot 7, 100 acres; lot 21, 101½ acres; lot 25, 85½ acres; lot 20, 19¾ acres; lot 11, 19¼ acres; lot 97, 19¾ acres; lot 93, 11¾ acres; lot 85, 4½ acres; lot 89, 2 acres, lot 95, 1 acre; also lots 2, 27, 51, 30, 34, 58, 33, 63, 47, 21, 46 and 23, containing one-fourth acre each. Page 43.

1795, Aug. 15 —Deed from Sanford Williams to Timothy Allyn, for 121 acres in the above mentioned tract. Page 44.

1794, Dec. 11.—Deed from Asa Danforth to Sanford Williams; conveys lot 1, 100 acres; lot 22, 100½ acres; lot 23, 85½ acres; lot 19, 21½ acres; lot 100, 19¾ acres; lot 99, 5 acres; also remainder part of lots—one lot containing 19½ acres; one lot, 2 acres 14 perches; one lot, 1 acre 17 perches; eleven lots, ¼ acre each. The whole estimated to contain 357½ acres, being all the whole of Asa Danforth's right or share of the tract granted to Reed, except lot 95 containing 12 acres, and lot 5, ¼ acre. Page 45.

1789, Dec. 26.—Deed of release from Sanford Williams, Jerom Loomis and Timothy Allyn, to Charles Williamson, for 1,437½ acres of land, in Seth Reed's tract aforesaid. Page 46

1792. Oct. 9.—Deed from James M. Reed to John Nicholls for 101½ acres of land, in Seth Reed's tract aforesaid. Page 47.

1795, July 21.—Deed from John Nichols to Joseph Annin for lot 8 in Seth Reed's tract aforesaid, containing 101 acres. Page 48.

1797, May 10.—Deed from Joseph Annin to Charles Williamson, for the last mentioned lot. Page 49.

VOLUME LXI. 1796-1798.

1797, March 20.—Letter from Joseph Annin to the commissioners of the land office, informing them that he will accept of lands on the east side of the pre-emption line, in lieu of lands owned by him on the west side thereof. Page 145.

LANDS IN JOHN LANSING, JR.'S, PATENT, (Vol. L, p. 19.)

VOLUME LXIII. 1800-1803.

1795, Sept. 8.—Deed from Benedict Robinson and Susanna his wife, to William Potter, for 615 acres of land, being the north end of Lansing's patent, in the county of Ontario. (Torrey, Yates County.) Page 38.

IX.

1799, Oct. 19.—Deed from William Potter to Arnold Potter, for 615 acres of land last above mentioned. Page 39.

1800, March 14.—Deed from Arnold Potter to Charles Williamson, for the last mentioned 615 acres of land. Page 40.

1808, March 17.—Report of the attorney-general, on the application of Sir James Pulteney and Henrietta Laura Pulteney, Countess of Bath, praying compensation for letters patent granted to Seth Reed, in the county of Ontario. Page 51.

NOTE.—The above report recommends compensation for 1529 acres in Seth Reed tract and 615 in John Lansing, Jr., tract. January 25, 1811, the commissioners of land office, on the report of attorney-general, ordered compensation to be allowed to Sir John Lowther Johnstone for the above, but reducing the 615 acres in Lansing patent to 457½ acres, as Williamson had received compensation for 2,009 acres of the 2,466½ acres in Lansing tract.

VI.

*Claim of Joshua Mersereau for compensation for loss of land in Seth Reed tract.*

VOLUME LXIII.

Abstract of Joshua Mersereau's title to land in Seth Reed's patent, viz.:—

1794, April 9.—Judah Colt, Sheriff of Ontario County, to Joshua Mersereau, Jr., conveys all the lands of Seth Reed wherever situated.—Sale April 9, 1794, under execution upon judgment of £1,200—purchased for £70. Page 56.

1794, Sept 20.—Judah Colt, Sheriff, to Joshua Mersereau, Jr.; confirmation deed of foregoing recites the execution and sale of Old Castle farm—200 acres—for £20; homestead farm—200 acres—for £20; lot of 100 acres opposite homestead farm, £20; residue of lands, £10. Page 56.

1798, Feb. 26.—Application of Joshua Mersereau for compensation for loss of his land, called the old castle farm, containing 200 acres; the homestead farm containing 100 acres, and also the residue of the lands belonging to Seth Reed, in Ontario county, and sold on execution, which are now within the Massachusetts pre-emption line. Page 54

Reference of sundry of the above papers to the attorney general. Page 55.

1798, March 10.—Letter of Joshua Mersereau to Simeon De Witt, surveyor general, with particulars of his purchase of Reed's lands, and asking advice as to how he may procure compensation for their loss. Page 57.

1798, May 10.—Letter from Joshua Mersereau to attorney general Hoffman, respecting his claim to Seth Reed's lands. Page 59.

VII

*Papers in relation to compensation for loss of lot in *Rikemans town: Geneva.*

VOL LXII. 1798-1800.

1792, June 18.—Deed from Thomas Pollock to Doct. William Adams, of Geneva, of a lot of land "on the north end of the Seneca Lake known as lot No. 94 in Rikemans town." Page 66.

1789, Oct. 2.—Bond of Peter Ryckman, etc., etc., recites as follows: "A good and sufficient deed in law of the water lot No. 94 in the township of *Rickman situated on the north end of Seneca Lake." Page 66.

1799, March 6.—Petition of William Adams to the Legislature, praying indemnification for the loss of the above lot which has been conveyed to Charles Williamson by the state of Massachusetts, and recites that he did on the 18th of June 1792 purchase from Thomas Pollock, a certain lot of land lying in the town of Geneva, county of Ontario." Page 67.

NOTE.—The above petition was referred to the Commissioners of the land office, and March 12, 1799 it was referred by the Board to the Attorney General for report, but no record found of any further proceedings.

*So spelled in the original.

VIII

*Papers in relation to compensation wanted for lands conveyed by Seth Reed.*

Vol. LXIII–1800–1803.

*1791*, June 1.—Deed from Seth Reed to Josiah Reed, for 192 acres of land in Reed and Ryckmans location aforesaid. Page 34.

Jan. 14.—Deed from Seth Reed to Josiah Brown, for 50 acres of land at Canadasago, (Seneca Ontario Co.) Page 35.

Feb 24—Deed from Seth Reed and Hannah, his wife, to Cornelius Roberts, for 200 acres of land along the old preemption line, Page 36.

1798, March 8.—Petition of Josiah Reed, Josiah Brown and Joel Roberts praying indemnity for 442 acres of land in Seth Reeds tract, of which they have been deprived. Page 52.

Note.—The above petition was referred to the Attorney General, but no further action is found in the MSS.

IX.

Volume LXIII.

*Claim of Gozen Ryerse for Compensation.*

1792, March 31.—Deed of William J. Vredenburgh and Elizabeth, his wife, to Gozen Ryerse for 2600 acres of land adjoining Ryckman's reservation. (Torrey and Milo, Yates Co.) Page 53.

1800, July 10—Report of the attorney general on the application of Gozen Ryerse for indemnity for the loss of 300 acres of land, west of the new preemption line. Page 172. Vol. L X//

Note.—Oct. 24, 1801, the Surveyor General made return of survey for Ryerse of a tract of 1800 acres of land in the town of Jay, Essex county, and the land board ordered a patent issued when a proper release was executed for the 300 acres for which he was entitled to compensation. Nov. 17, 1801, the release was presented and approved, and patent for the 1800 acres issued

X.

*Sundry Papers in relation to lands in the Gore.*

Vol. XLIX-1790.

1790, Nov 17,—Return of survey for Israel Platt of a tract of 1,800 acres of land to the north of Seneca Lake. (Phelps, Ontario Co.) Page154.

Vol. L 1790-1791,

1791, March 23.—Certificate of location for Benjamin Hoornbeek, Lawrence Kortreght, John English, David Smith and Thomas Hardin of a tract of land containing 1,000 acres in the County of Herkimer, to the north of Seneca Lake, between the lands ceded to Massachusets and the tract reserved for the troops of the state of New York. (Phelps, Ontario Co.) Page 60.

Vol. LII. 1791-1792.

1791, Dec. 66,—Patent to Israel Platt for 1,800 acres of land north of Seneca Lake, between the lands ceded to Massachusetts and the military lands. (Phelps, Ontario Co.) Page 89.

Vol. LXIII. 1800-1803.

1800, Nov. 18.—Report of the Attorney General on the application of James Watson for letters patent for certain lands near Seneca Lake, etc., and recommending the issue of the same. Pages 11, 12.

Nov. 17—Letter of the Surveyor General to the Attorney General, explaining that the death of Moses DeWitt, his deputy, was the cause of the delay in surveying the lands in the southwest of the town of Chemung, for James Watson, but the land has since been surveyed. Page 13.

Vol. LXIII.

1796, April 11.—Abstract of an act entitled an act for the further direction of the commissioners of the land office. Page 58.

XI.

*1810.* Oct 16.—Deed from James Manning Reed, of Champaign, Ohio, to Joseph Annin. Acknowledged Oct. 24, 1810. Consideration $6000. Conveys 200 acres and also two undivided fifth parts of the remaining 1800 acres in Seth Reeds location, Ontario Co. Page 61.

XI.

*Papers in relation to the tract of land occupied by Jemima Wilkinson and her followers, known as the settlement of "the Friends"*

VOL. L. 1790-1791

1791, May 2.—Letter from James Parker in behalf of himself and the settlement of "Friends," on the west side of Seneca Lake, to Gov. Clinton, respecting their application for lands on said lake. Page 91.

May 9.—Proposal of James Parker respecting a former application for land, on behalf of the "Friends." Page 111.

VOL. LIII. 1792.

1792, Oct 3.—Return of survey for James Parker and his associates, of two tracts, containing 14,049 acres of land, being a settlement of "Friends," on the west side of Seneca Lake, in the county of Ontario. (Torrey, Milo and Starkey, Yates Co.) Page 112.

[No Date] Letter from James Parker to the Commissioners of the land office, communicating the names of his associates in a grant of land west of Seneca Lake. Page 113.

Sep. 10.—Certificate of Arnold Potter, justice of the Peace, that James Parker appeared before him and affirmed that the persons whose names are given in the preceding letter, were the only sufferers with him in the Lessee company, and his only associates in the above land. Page 113.

1791, Oct. 10.—Votes and resolutions passed at a meeting of the community of "Friends," residing at Jerusalem, in the county of Ontario, for appointing a committee to receive of James Parker all writings and papers relative to a contract for a certain tract of land on the west side of Seneca Lake, and carrying out the conditions of said contract, etc. Page 114.

1791, May 9.- Minute of the Commissioners of the land office ordering two tracts of land to be surveyed for the society of "Friends" on the west side of Seneca Lake, in the county of Ontario. Page 115.

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